

Edexcel English Lit GCSE

Dr Jekyll & Hyde: Question Bank *Settings*



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Please note: *these questions have been written and formatted in the same style as Edexcel exam questions. You can use them to help with extract questions and timed essay practice. These questions have NOT been taken from past papers and they have NOT been made by Edexcel.*



1. Soho

It was by this time about nine in the morning, and the first fog of the season. A great chocolate-coloured pall lowered over heaven, but the wind was continually charging and routing these embattled vapours; so that as the cab crawled from street to street, Mr Utterson beheld a marvellous number of degrees and hues of twilight; for here it would be dark like the back-end of evening; and there would be a glow of a rich, lurid brown, like the light of some strange conflagration; and here, for a moment, the fog would be quite broken up, and a haggard shaft of daylight would glance in between the swirling wreaths. The dismal quarter of Soho seen under these changing glimpses, with its muddy ways, and slatternly passengers, and its lamps, which had never been extinguished or had been kindled afresh to combat this mournful reinvasion of darkness, seemed, in the lawyer's eyes, like a district of some city in a nightmare. The thoughts of his mind, besides, were of the gloomiest dye; and when he glanced at the companion of his drive, he was conscious of some touch of that terror of the law and the law's officers, which may at times assail the most honest.

As the cab drew up before the address indicated, the fog lifted a little and showed him a dingy street, a gin palace, a low French eating house, a shop for the retail of penny numbers and twopenny salads, many ragged children huddled in the doorways, and many women of many different nationalities passing out, key in hand, to have a morning glass; and the next moment the fog settled down again upon that part, as brown as umber, and cut him off from his blackguardly surroundings. This was the home of Henry Jekyll's favourite; of a man who was heir to a quarter of a million sterling.

An ivory-faced and silvery-haired old woman opened the door. She had an evil face, smoothed by hypocrisy; but her manners were excellent. Yes, she said, this was Mr Hyde's, but he was not at home; he had been in that night very late, but had gone away again in less than an hour; there was nothing strange in that; his habits were very irregular, and he was often absent; for instance, it was nearly two months since she had seen him till yesterday.

3 (a) Explore how Stevenson presents Soho in this extract. Give examples from the extract to support your ideas. (20)

(b) In this extract, Mr Utterson travels to Mr Hyde's house to try and find him after he murdered Sir Danvers Carew. Explain how Mr Utterson investigates elsewhere in the novel. In your answer, you must consider:

- what he is investigating
- why Stevenson chose to portray Mr Utterson as a character with curiosity (20)



2. Jekyll's house and lab

Round the corner from the bystreet, there was a square of ancient, handsome houses, now for the most part decayed from their high estate and let in flats and chambers to all sorts and conditions of men: map-engravers, architects, shady lawyers and the agents of obscure enterprises. One house, however, second from the corner, was still occupied entire; and at the door of this, which wore a great air of wealth and comfort, though it was now plunged in darkness except for the fan-light, Mr Utterson stopped and knocked. A well-dressed, elderly servant opened the door.

'Is Dr Jekyll at home, Poole?' asked the lawyer.

'I will see, Mr Utterson,' said Poole, admitting the visitor, as he spoke, into a large, low-roofed, comfortable hall, paved with flags, warmed (after the fashion of a country house) by a bright, open fire, and furnished with costly cabinets of oak. 'Will you wait here by the fire, sir? or shall I give you a light in the dining room?'

'Here, thank you,' said the lawyer, and he drew near and leaned on the tall fender. This hall, in which he was now left alone, was a pet fancy of his friend the doctor's; and Utterson himself was wont to speak of it as the pleasantest room in London. But tonight there was a shudder in his blood; the face of Hyde sat heavy on his memory; he felt (what was rare with him) a nausea and distaste of life; and in the gloom of his spirits, he seemed to read a menace in the flickering of the firelight on the polished cabinets and the uneasy starting of the shadow on the roof. He was ashamed of his relief, when Poole presently returned to announce that Dr Jekyll was gone out.

3 (a) Explore how Stevenson presents Dr Jekyll's home in this extract. Give examples from the extract to support your ideas. (20)

(b) In this extract, Mr Utterson tries to visit Dr Jekyll but discovers him out. Explain how characters are unable to effectively communicate elsewhere in the novel. In your answer, you must consider:

- instances of misunderstanding and bad communication in the novel
- how this heightens the mystery and fear in the novel (20)



3. Hyde's house

An ivory-faced and silvery-haired old woman opened the door. She had an evil face, smoothed by hypocrisy; but her manners were excellent. Yes, she said, this was Mr Hyde's, but he was not at home; he had been in that night very late, but had gone away again in less than an hour; there was nothing strange in that; his habits were very irregular, and he was often absent; for instance, it was nearly two months since she had seen him till yesterday.

'Very well then, we wish to see his rooms,' said the lawyer; and when the woman began to declare it was impossible, 'I had better tell you who this person is,' he added. 'This is Inspector Newcomen of Scotland Yard.'

A flash of odious joy appeared upon the woman's face. 'Ah!' said she, 'he is in trouble! What has he done?'

Mr Utterson and the inspector exchanged glances. 'He don't seem a very popular character,' observed the latter. 'And now, my good woman, just let me and this gentleman has a look about us.'

In the whole extent of the house, which but for the old woman remained otherwise empty, Mr Hyde had only used a couple of rooms; but these were furnished with luxury and good taste. A closet was filled with wine; the plate was of silver, the napery elegant; a good picture hung upon the walls, a gift (as Utterson supposed) from Henry Jekyll, who was much of a connoisseur; and the carpets were of many piles and agreeable in colour. At this moment, however, the rooms bore every mark of having been recently and hurriedly ransacked; clothes lay about the floor, with their pockets inside out; lockfast drawers stood open; and on the hearth there lay a pile of grey ashes, as though many papers had been burned. From these embers the inspector disinterred the butt end of a green cheque book, which had resisted the action of the fire; the other half of the stick was found behind the door; and as this clinched his suspicions, the officer declared himself delighted. A visit to the bank, where several thousand pounds were found to be lying to the murderer's credit, completed his gratification

3 (a) Explore how Stevenson presents Hyde's house in this extract. Give examples from the extract to support your ideas. (20)

(b) In this extract, the reader sees where Hyde lives. Explain how settings reflect the characters personalities and feelings elsewhere in the novel. In your answer, you must consider:

- which characters and emotions are reflected
- how they are presented (20)



Soho - Mark Scheme

Question Number	Indicative Content
	<p><i>The indicative content is not prescriptive. Reward responses that explore the ways in which Stevenson presents Soho in this extract. Responses may include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABOUT 10 BULLET POINTS <p>Pathetic Fallacy</p>

REMEMBER ALL CONTENT IS MARKED FOR AO2 IN THIS QUESTION [20].

Question Number	Indicative Content
	<p>The indicative content is not prescriptive. Reward responses that explain how Mr Utterson investigates elsewhere in the novel is shown elsewhere in the novel. Responses may include:</p> <p>What he is investigating:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ABOUT 5 BULLET POINTS <p>Why Stevenson chose to portray Mr Utterson as a character with curiosity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Despite generally conforming to society's norms and expectations as much as possible, Utterson has a curious streak. This becomes increasingly apparent as the narrative becomes centralised on Utterson attempting to figure out the case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde, and he becomes increasingly persistent. <p><i>"If he be Mr Hyde... I shall be Mr Seek"</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utterson is a curious, inquisitive member of society - this quote displays the insatiable curiosity intrinsic to Utterson's character which propels the plot of the novella forwards. • He wishes to ensure his clients are safe. • Emphasises the theme of duality, opposites, and contrast which is woven throughout the novella, providing Utterson with the role of investigator in the case of Jekyll & Hyde.



- The idea of hide and seek alludes to the detective novel conventions Stevenson **“borrows”** in his work.

“I shall consider it my duty to break in that door”

- He is **investigative, reasoned and rational** - constantly wishing to protect the integrity and safety of his clients, whilst respecting their wishes, at all times.
- He feels **duty** bound to protect his friend, Jekyll. This shows the strength of his moral code especially when juxtaposed against Enfield who would have shied away long beforehand.

He is a curious and investigative character because he cares about his friends and wants to ensure they are safe and moral.

REMEMBER ALL CONTENT IS MARKED FOR AO1 IN THIS QUESTION [20].

