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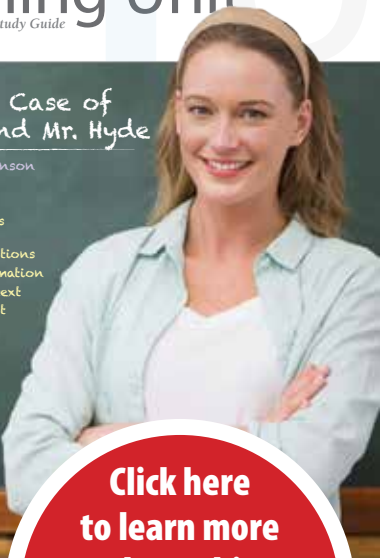
Chapter-by-Chapter Study Guide



The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde

by Robert Louis Stevenson

- Learning objectives
- Study Guide with short-answer questions
- Background information
- Vocabulary in context
- Multiple-choice test
- Essay questions
- Literary terms



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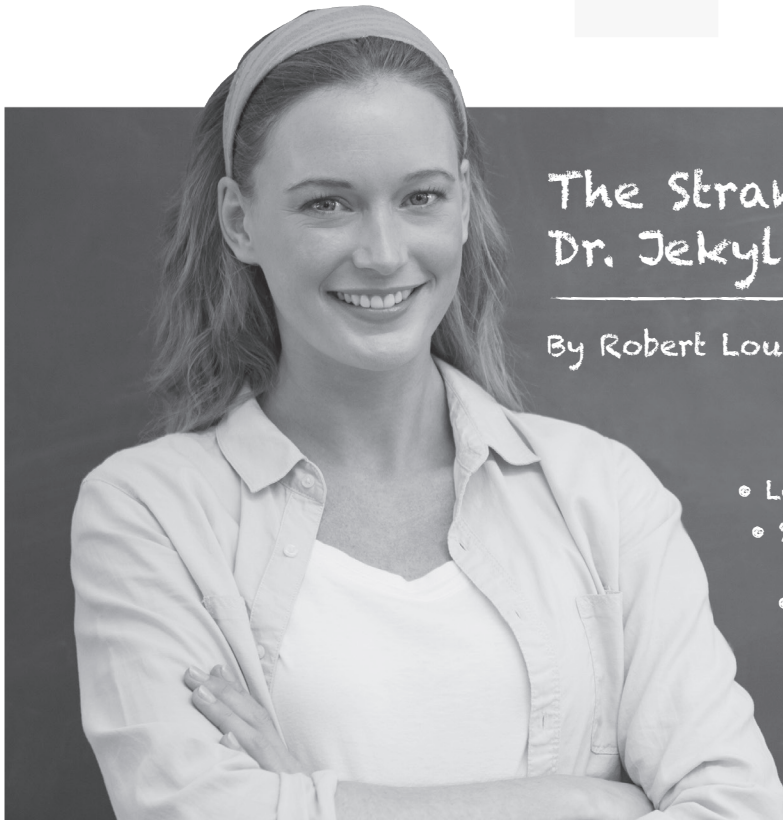
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Literature Teaching Unit

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P.O. Box 658, Clayton, DE 19938
www.prestwickhouse.com
800.932.4593

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Item No: 300284

Objectives

By the end of this Unit, the student will be able to:

1. identify the following literary devices:
 - metaphor
 - simile
 - allusion
2. recognize the differences between third and first person narrative and identify when the point of view changes in the story; discuss how the change enhances the believability of the story.
3. discuss how the main conflict in the story, man's struggle with himself, is central to the overall theme of the novel—the presence of and struggle between good and evil in the human soul.
4. find examples in the book to support the following themes:
 - human ugliness originates in the soul
 - people who succumb to the temptations of evil risk losing their capacity for good
 - people who suppress their natural desires risk having them surface out of control.
5. point out the dual roles of the protagonist/antagonist in this novel.
6. discuss how the author's use of allusion to the Biblical story of Cain and Abel may be an example of foreshadowing.
7. write a character sketch for Mr. Utterson. Point out why, despite his attention to details, he often draws the incorrect conclusion from the facts.
8. contrast the views of Dr. Jekyll and Dr. Lanyon, pointing out the ways in which they view the science of medicine differently. In addition, point out how both respond to their initial confrontation with evil.
9. comment on the three levels on which this book may exist:
 - a mystery story in which the mystery is gradually revealed
 - a morality tale about the struggle between good and evil in the human soul
 - a psychological tale in which Jekyll's potion is not a physical entity. Instead, the potion symbolizes man's inclination to dabble in evil and the subsequent results this dabbling has on his body and mind.

Questions for Essay and Discussion

1. Write a character sketch of Mr. Utterson. What qualities does he possess that make him a good friend?
2. Use events from the story to prove the following statement: Evil grows stronger as it is exercised.
3. List the ways Dr. Jekyll tries to control Mr. Hyde. Are any of them successful?
4. What scientific argument does Dr. Jekyll have with Dr. Lanyon? Why do you think Dr. Lanyon dies after witnessing Mr. Hyde's transformation into Dr. Jekyll? Is his death believable?
5. How does the death of Sir Danvers Carew and the subsequent changes Dr. Jekyll makes in his life support the following two themes?
 - People who succumb to the temptations of evil risk losing their capacity for good.
 - People who suppress their natural desires risk having them surface out of control .
6. List three mistakes Dr. Jekyll makes that directly lead to his downfall. What do you think he could have done differently to avoid dying and still rid the world of Mr. Hyde?
7. Throughout most of the novel, the other characters are ignorant of Mr. Hyde's connection to Dr. Jekyll. Write a character sketch of Dr. Jekyll as the other characters see him.
8. Write a description of Mr. Hyde and relate it to the idea that human ugliness originates in the soul.
9. As in any good mystery, clues are given to help the reader solve the mystery before it is finally revealed. What clues does the author give you to solve this mystery?
10. If this is a morality tale about the struggle between good and evil in the human soul, who won and who lost? (Remember the body in the lab is Hyde's, not Jekyll's.)
11. If this is viewed as a psychological tale, what is it that affects Jekyll and in what way does it affect him?
12. Discuss how the author appears to view the nature of good and evil in the human soul. Point out why we know he is not simply thinking of a duality in which the soul is fifty percent good and fifty percent evil.

Chapter Nine - Dr. Lanyon's Narrative

VOCABULARY

acuteness – sharpness, severity
disparity – an apparent difference
ebullition – the process of bubbling or boiling
enigmas – speeches or writings that are difficult to understand
farrago – a confused mixture
hansom – two-wheeled covered carriage pulled by one horse
impediment – an obstacle
incredulous – unbelievable
inexplicable – not understandable
parley – a conference to settle a dispute with an enemy
prodigy – something monstrous
pungent – sharp sensation to the smell or taste
turpitude – depravity
volatile – changing to a vapor

1. What favor does Dr. Jekyll request from Dr. Lanyon?

2. List the contents of the drawer.

3. What is strange about the man who comes to pick up the drawer?

2. What aspect of Dr. Jekyll’s own character inspires his research?

3. Dr. Jekyll gives two reasons for not revealing the scientific branch of his investigations in his confession. How would you interpret this statement?

“First, because I have been made to learn that the doom and burthen of our life is bound forever on man’s shoulders, and when the attempt is made to cast it off, it but returns upon us with more unfamiliar and more awful pressure.” (Pgs. 60-61)

4. How does Dr. Jekyll feel after drinking the potion for the first time? How has he changed physically?

5. What explanation does Dr. Jekyll give for this change in size and age? Why are other people repelled by his appearance?

6. If other people are repulsed by Hyde’s appearance, why is Jekyll not repulsed when he sees Hyde’s image in the mirror?
