

Dr Jekyll Mr Hyde Answers

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde

Study Guide Questions – Answer Key

Chapter 3 “Dr. Jekyll Was Quite At Ease”

1. What significance could the title of the chapter have?
Jekyll is doing well and is confident in what he has put in his will.
2. How long is a fortnight? *Two weeks*
3. What provides an excuse for Utterson to talk to Jekyll about the will?
Utterson is at a dinner that Jekyll is hosting.
4. How is Dr. Jekyll described?

Dr. Jekyll is described as a “large, well-made, smooth-faced man of 50, with something of a slyish cast of feature, but every mark of integrity and nobility.”

5. What does Utterson say about Jekyll?

Jekyll says that Utterson is “a little reserved perhaps for all these unassuming, pleasant-looking” and that he has never known “more disappointed in any man than Utterson.” Utterson is described as “a man of a stern, uncommunicative face” and “a man of a stern, uncommunicative face.”

6. How does Utterson react to the business of the will?

When Utterson discusses the will, Jekyll becomes “pale as the wax lips, and there came a darkness about his eyes.” Jekyll then says that he has never known “more disappointed in any man than Utterson.”

7. Why is it interesting that Utterson thinks, “I would have said before now that I was a doctor myself?”

It is interesting that Utterson thinks this because he is a doctor, but he is not a doctor himself.

8. Why does Utterson not discuss the will with Jekyll?

Jekyll says that Utterson should not get involved with the will because it is a private matter.

9. What promise does Utterson make to Jekyll?

Utterson promises to help Jekyll when Jekyll is in danger.

10. From the description of Jekyll in this chapter and the description of Hyde from the previous two chapters, what is your feeling about Jekyll's description?

Jekyll is a good man.

| Jekyll | Hyde |
|------------------|-------------|
| Large, well-made | Small, thin |
| Smooth-faced | Wrinkled |
| Well-made | Thin |
| Well-made | Thin |
| Well-made | Thin |
| Well-made | Thin |
| Well-made | Thin |
| Well-made | Thin |
| Well-made | Thin |
| Well-made | Thin |

Dr. Jekyll Mr. Hyde answers can provide valuable insights into one of literature's most profound explorations of duality and the human condition. Robert Louis Stevenson's novella, "Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," published in 1886, delves into the complexities of identity, morality, and the struggle between good and evil. This article will dissect key themes, character analyses, and the enduring relevance of the story while providing answers to common questions surrounding its interpretation.

Understanding the Characters

Dr. Henry Jekyll

Dr. Jekyll is a well-respected scientist and physician in Victorian London, embodying the values of his society. He is characterized by:

- Intelligence: Jekyll is a brilliant scientist, whose experiments lead him to discover a way to separate his good side from his darker impulses.
- Respectability: He is known for his charitable work and social standing, making his transformation into Hyde all the more shocking.
- Conflict: Jekyll struggles internally with the duality of his nature, feeling constrained by societal expectations and his own moral compass.

Mr. Edward Hyde

In stark contrast, Mr. Hyde represents the darker side of Jekyll's personality. Key aspects include:

- Primitive Instincts: Hyde embodies the unrestrained and savage aspects of humanity, showcasing what lies beneath the veneer of civility.
- Physical Deformity: Described as repulsive, Hyde's appearance reflects his moral corruption and the evil he represents.
- Freedom from Conformity: Unlike Jekyll, Hyde is unbound by societal norms, allowing him to indulge in immoral acts without guilt.

Thematic Exploration

Duality of Human Nature

One of the central themes in "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" is the duality of human nature. This concept can be explored through several points:

1. Good vs. Evil: The novella illustrates the internal battle between Jekyll's respectable persona and Hyde's malevolence.
2. Repression: Jekyll's transformation into Hyde can be seen as a reaction to the strict moral codes of Victorian society, where individuals felt compelled to repress their true selves.
3. Identity and Self-Perception: Jekyll's experiments raise questions about the essence of identity and whether humans are inherently good or evil.

Societal Expectations

Stevenson critiques Victorian society's rigid moral standards through the lens of Jekyll and Hyde:

- Reputation vs. Reality: Jekyll's respectable image contrasts sharply with his darker impulses,

reflecting the hypocrisy prevalent in society.

- Fear of the Other: Hyde represents the fears of the unknown and the darker aspects of humanity that society often seeks to suppress.

Symbolism in the Novella

The novella is rich in symbolism that enhances its themes:

- The Potion: Jekyll's potion symbolizes the potential for transformation inherent in all humans, but also the dangers of playing God and tampering with one's nature.
- The Door: The door to Jekyll's laboratory serves as a metaphor for the boundary between the civilized self and the primal instincts represented by Hyde.
- London: The setting of Victorian London mirrors the themes of duality, with its respectable facade hiding the moral decay beneath.

Key Questions and Answers

This section addresses common queries regarding "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," providing clarity on the novella's nuances.

1. What causes Dr. Jekyll to create Mr. Hyde?

Dr. Jekyll creates Mr. Hyde out of a desire to explore the darker aspects of his personality without the constraints of societal judgment. He is fascinated by the idea of separating his dual nature, believing that he could indulge in vice while maintaining his respectable reputation.

2. How does Jekyll's transformation into Hyde affect him?

Jekyll's transformation into Hyde initially provides him with a sense of freedom and liberation. However, as the story progresses, he loses control over his transformations, leading to dire consequences. The more he indulges in Hyde's persona, the more he becomes aware of his inability to revert back to his former self.

3. What role does friendship play in the novella?

Friendship is essential in the novella, particularly in the relationship between Jekyll and his friend Mr. Utterson. Utterson's dedication to uncovering the truth behind Hyde serves as a moral anchor in the story. Through their friendship, Stevenson explores themes of loyalty, trust, and the fear of losing one's friend to the darker side of human nature.

4. What is the significance of the ending?

The ending of the novella, where Jekyll ultimately succumbs to Hyde, serves as a cautionary tale about the dangers of unchecked desires and the internal conflict between good and evil. It underscores the idea that one cannot wholly separate their dual nature without dire consequences.

5. How does the setting contribute to the story's themes?

The setting of Victorian London plays a crucial role in reinforcing the themes of duality and repression. The stark contrast between the refined society and the lurking darkness below mirrors Jekyll's internal struggle. The foggy streets and hidden corners symbolize the hidden aspects of human nature that society often ignores.

The Enduring Impact of "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde"

Stevenson's novella has left an indelible mark on literature and popular culture. Its exploration of the human psyche resonates with readers today for several reasons:

- Psychological Insights: The narrative delves into the complexities of identity and morality, making it relevant in discussions about mental health and personal duality.
- Cultural References: The characters of Jekyll and Hyde have become archetypes in popular culture, symbolizing the struggles between good and evil.
- Adaptations: The story has inspired countless adaptations in film, theater, and literature, each interpreting the themes in new and innovative ways.

Conclusion

In conclusion, Dr. Jekyll Mr. Hyde answers encapsulate the rich themes and complex characters of Robert Louis Stevenson's novella. The exploration of duality, the impact of societal expectations, and the symbolic elements within the story continue to provoke thought and discussion. As we navigate our own internal conflicts and societal pressures, Jekyll and Hyde remain profoundly relevant, reminding us of the perpetual struggle between our better selves and our darker impulses.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the primary theme of 'Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde'?

The primary theme is the duality of human nature, illustrating the struggle between good and evil within an individual.

How does Dr. Jekyll justify his experiments with Mr. Hyde?

Dr. Jekyll believes that by separating his good and evil sides, he can indulge in his darker desires without losing his reputation and integrity.

What role does setting play in 'Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde'?

The setting of Victorian London enhances the story's themes, contrasting the respectable facade of society with the hidden darkness represented by Mr. Hyde.

How does the transformation between Jekyll and Hyde occur?

The transformation happens through a potion that Dr. Jekyll creates, allowing him to morph into Mr. Hyde at will, embodying his repressed vices.

What does Mr. Hyde symbolize in the story?

Mr. Hyde symbolizes the darker aspects of human nature, representing the unchecked impulses and the consequences of moral depravity.

How does the relationship between Jekyll and Hyde reflect the concept of identity?

The relationship illustrates the conflict within one's identity, showcasing how societal expectations can force individuals to suppress their true selves.

What is the significance of the ending of 'Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde'?

The ending emphasizes the irreversible consequences of Jekyll's experiments, highlighting the dangers of tampering with human nature and the loss of control over one's darker instincts.

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