

## PART ONE: INTRODUCTION

### How to use these practice tests

This book contains seven GCSE English Literature exam-style practice tests for *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*. All the York Notes tests have been modelled on the ones that you will sit in your AQA GCSE 9–1 English Literature exam.

There are lots of ways these tests can support your study and revision for your AQA English Literature exam on *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*. There is no 'right' way – choose the one (or ones) that suits your learning style best.

#### 1 Alongside the York Notes Study Guide for *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*

Do you have the York Notes Study Guide for *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*?

These tests will allow you to try out all the skills and techniques outlined in the Study Guide. So you could:

- choose a question from this book
- read the sections of the Study Guide relevant to the question, i.e. Plot and Action; Characters; Themes, Contexts and Setting; Structure, Form and Language
- use the Progress Booster exam section of the Study Guide to remind yourself of key exam techniques
- complete the question.

#### 2 As a stand-alone revision programme

Do you know the text inside out and have you already mastered the skills needed for your exam?

If so, you can keep your skills fresh by answering one or two questions from this book each day or week in the lead-up to the exam. You could make a revision diary and allocate particular questions to particular times.

#### 3 As a form of mock exam

Would you like to test yourself under exam conditions?

You could put aside part of a day to work on a practice test in a quiet room. Set a stopwatch so that you can experience what it will be like in your real exam. If some of your friends have copies of this book then several of you could all do this together and discuss your answers afterwards.

Or, you could try working through Part Two of this book slowly, question by question, over a number of days as part of your revision, and save the further questions in Part Three to use as a mock test nearer the exam.

### How to use the answer sections

This book contains a mixture of annotated sample answers and short (indicative content) answers that will help you to:

- identify the difference between Mid, Good and Very High Level work
- understand how the Assessment Objectives are applied
- grade your own answers by comparing them with the samples provided.

The answers can also give you additional ideas for your responses and help you to aim high.

QUESTION 1, MID LEVEL ANSWER

says that there is something odd about Hyde 'if I could find a name for it'. This all suggests that a normal person automatically dislikes Hyde because he is somehow unnatural in a way that can't be expressed. It's not very exact, though, because lots of people automatically hate spiders, but they're natural.

Hyde is Jekyll's alter ego – he is part of him. Hyde is a more 'animal' part of Jekyll and it's not normal to behave like that living in a city. What counts as normal or natural in civilised society is the good bits of Jekyll – like being intelligent and kind, having a nice house and good wine. Jekyll seems unnatural to people as they compare him with that standard. Hyde shows the part of themselves that people like to hide, which is why he is called Hyde.

True, but not expressed in a way that relates to the question

Detailed attention to choice of language

**MID LEVEL**

**Comment:**  
The answer is clearly written and shows a good knowledge of the incidents of the novel that relate to the question. More attention to how Stevenson uses language, supported by appropriate quotations, would improve the answer. The final paragraph raises an interesting point which could be further explored.

**For a Good Level:**

- Include more discussion of how Stevenson creates the impression of Hyde being unnatural, supported by quotations and a discussion of the language used.
- Develop the point about civilised/uncivilised human nature and how Hyde is a natural part of Jekyll.
- Make closer reference to the extract and the rest of the novel to support points and ideas.
- Give the argument as a whole a clear structure.

15

Picks up on precise use of language

Good observation that could be further developed for a higher level

Sample answers show the key points and ideas you could have included, with examiner-style annotations linked to the Assessment Objectives.

Each annotated sample is awarded a level with an examiner-style comment.

Points for improvement are given to show the difference between Mid, Good and Very High Level work.



## Annotated sample answers

Now, read the three sample answers that follow and, based on what you have read, try to allocate a level to your own work. Which of the three responses is your answer closest to? Don't be discouraged if your work doesn't seem as strong as some of the responses here – the point is to use these samples to learn about what is needed and then put it into practice in your own work. Conversely, you may have mentioned relevant ideas or points which don't appear in these responses; if this is the case, give yourself a pat on the back – it shows you are considering lots of good ideas!

## Sample answer A

**AO1** Starts with clear topic sentence relating to question

*Hyde is shown as unnatural throughout the novel. Here, it's Dr Lanyon who finds him unnatural. He has just let Hyde into his room to collect the potion. He immediately dislikes Hyde; we learn just before the extract that he keeps his hand on his gun because he doesn't trust him. Lanyon describes the ways Hyde is odd: he wears clothes that are too big, he has a 'shocking expression' on his face and 'incipient rigor' and a slow pulse. Dr Lanyon thinks he is just being silly and it's only 'personal distaste' that makes him dislike Hyde. But later he decided there was something else. He doesn't say what, though – just that there is something 'deeper in the nature of man' that turned him against Hyde. This is vague and not very helpful, but perhaps that's because he doesn't understand it himself.*

**AO1** A reasonable comment

*Hyde is unnatural every time he turns up in the story. The first time is when he tramples a small child. A normal person would stop and make sure the child was all right, but Hyde doesn't. This shows he is not a normal person. The other people there hate him, because he has done a bad thing and isn't sorry. Later, his attack on Sir Danvers Carew for no reason is a worse example of the same thing. We might think he is a psychopath, but in the 19th century they didn't have proper terms for different sorts of mental illness. But there would still have been people with mental problems, so Stevenson and his readers might have met people who behaved like this. If he is mad, he still seems unnatural. The rest of the novel shows he is unnatural in a more scary way, though.*

**AO3** Attempt to relate to historical context, but poorly expressed

*No one likes Hyde, except maybe Jekyll who finds him thrilling as well as frightening. Everyone else feels uneasy around him, and finds him revolting. Utterson says he is 'hardly human', and gives him a feeling of 'disgust, loathing and fear'. Hyde is linked with the devil several times. No one can explain what about Hyde is so hideous. Enfield, Lanyon and Utterson all try to pin it down, but they can't. Enfield says the look of Hyde made him sweat, and Utterson*

**AO1** These are symptoms Lanyon finds in himself, they are not features of Hyde

**AO2** Appropriate quotations properly embedded

**AO2** Picks up on precise use of language

*says that there is something odd about Hyde 'if I could find a name for it'. This all suggests that a normal person automatically dislikes Hyde because he is somehow unnatural in a way that can't be expressed. It's not very exact, though, because lots of people automatically hate spiders, but they're natural.*

**AO1** Good observation that could be further developed for a higher level

*Hyde is Jekyll's alter ego – he is part of him. Hyde is a more 'animal' part of Jekyll and it's not normal to behave like that living in a city. What counts as normal or natural in civilised society is the good bits of Jekyll – like being intelligent and kind, having a nice house and good wine. Jekyll seems unnatural to people as they compare him with that standard. Hyde shows the part of themselves that people like to hide, which is why he is called Hyde.*

**AO1** True, but not expressed in a way that relates to the question

**AO2** Detailed attention to choice of language

## MID LEVEL

## Comment:

The answer is clearly written and shows a good knowledge of the incidents of the novel that relate to the question. More attention to how Stevenson uses language, supported by appropriate quotations, would improve the answer. The final paragraph raises an interesting point which could be further explored.

## For a Good Level:

- Include more discussion of how Stevenson creates the impression of Hyde being unnatural, supported by quotations and a discussion of the language used.
- Develop the point about civilised/uncivilised human nature and how Hyde is a natural part of Jekyll.
- Make closer reference to the extract and the rest of the novel to support points and ideas.
- Give the argument as a whole a clear structure.



## PART THREE: FURTHER YORK NOTES PRACTICE TESTS WITH SHORT ANSWERS

Here are three further questions on the text in a similar style to the ones you might face in your exam. Taking into account what you have learnt from the mark schemes on pages 7–8, and the sample responses to the other questions, use Questions 5 to 7 as you wish. You may choose to:

- plan ideas
- write opening paragraphs or part answers
- write full answers at your own speed
- write full answers to a set time limit.

Once you have finished, you can check to see if you have covered some of the key points suggested in the Answers section, and make a judgement about what level you have achieved.



### Question 5

Read the following extract from *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* (Chapter Ten, pages 67–8).

In this extract, Dr Jekyll describes Hyde's attack on Sir Danvers Carew and its aftermath.

Instantly the spirit of hell awoke in me and raged. With a transport of glee, I mauled the unresisting body, tasting delight from every blow; and it was not till weariness had begun to succeed, that I was suddenly, in the top fit of my delirium, struck  
5 through the heart by a cold thrill of terror. A mist dispersed; I saw my life to be forfeit; and fled from the scene of these excesses, at once glorying and trembling, my lust of evil gratified and stimulated, my love of life screwed to the topmost peg. I ran to the house in Soho, and (to make assurance doubly  
10 sure) destroyed my papers; thence I set out through the lamplit streets, in the same divided ecstasy of mind, gloating on my crime, light-headedly devising others in the future, and yet still hastening and still hearkening in my wake for the steps of the avenger. Hyde had a song upon his lips as he compounded the  
15 draught, and as he drank it, pledged the dead man. The pangs of transformation had not done tearing him, before Henry Jekyll, with streaming tears of gratitude and remorse, had fallen upon his knees and lifted his clasped hands to God. The veil of self-indulgence was rent from head to foot, I saw my life as a whole:  
20 I followed it up from the days of childhood, when I had walked with my father's hand, and through the self-denying toils of my professional life, to arrive again and again, with the same sense of unreality, at the damned horrors of the evening. I could have screamed aloud; I sought with tears and prayers to smother  
25 down the crowd of hideous images and sounds with which my memory swarmed against me; and still, between the petitions, the ugly face of my iniquity stared into my soul. As the acuteness of this remorse began to die away, it was succeeded by a sense of joy. The problem of my conduct was solved. Hyde was  
30 thenceforth impossible ...

'Stevenson uses extravagant language in place of plot.'

Starting with this extract, explore how far you agree with this opinion.

Write about:

- how Stevenson uses extravagant language in this extract
- how Stevenson uses extravagant language elsewhere in the novel.

[30 marks]