Jekyll and Hyde Mind Map (GCSE)

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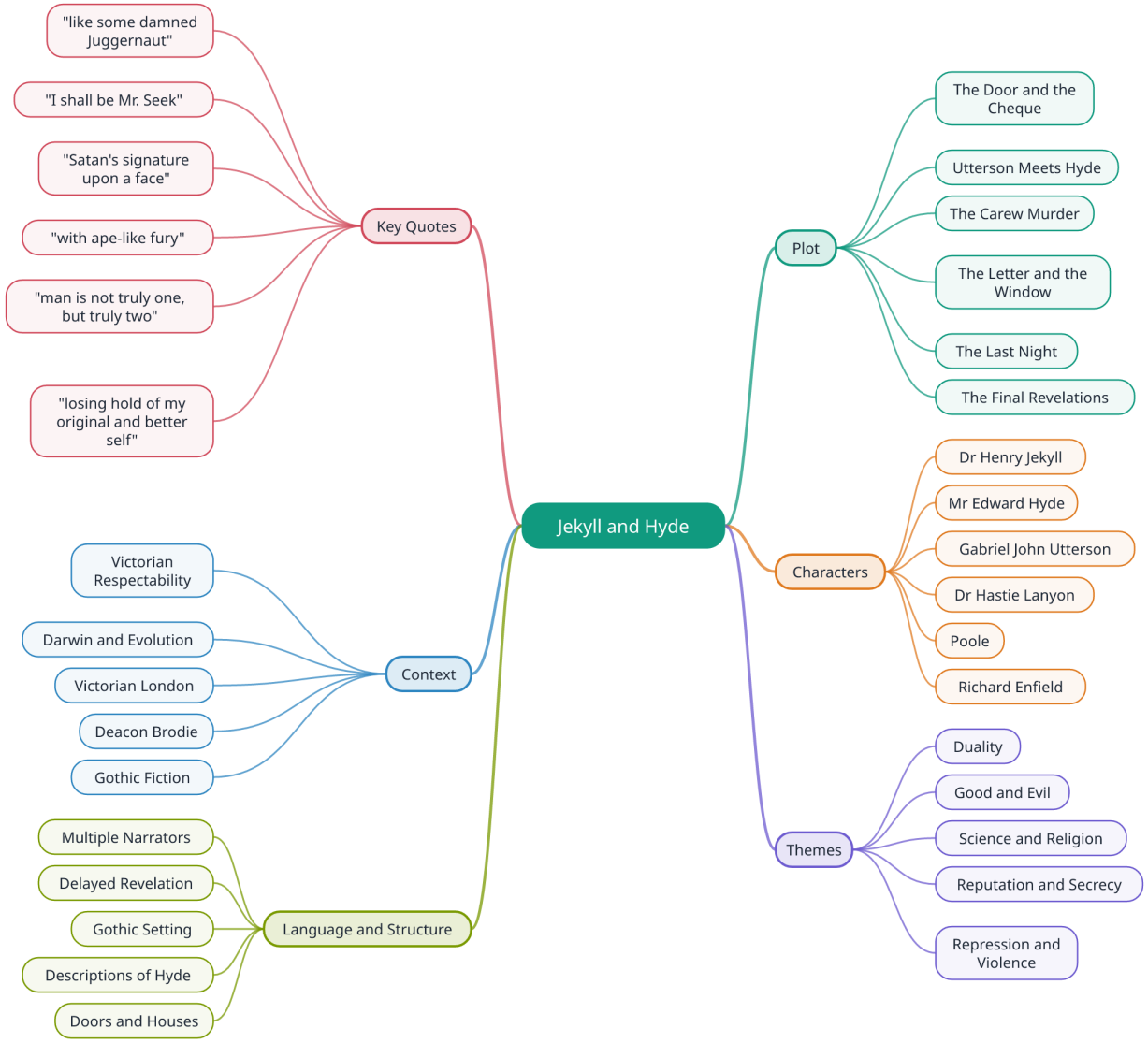

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Jekyll and Hyde mind map explained

Plot

The story is told as a mystery: Utterson investigates, and the truth is only revealed in the last two chapters.

The Door and the Cheque

Utterson and his cousin Enfield pass a sinister door. Enfield describes seeing Hyde trample a young girl, then pay compensation with a cheque signed by a respectable man.

Utterson Meets Hyde

Utterson is troubled by Jekyll's will, which leaves everything to Hyde. He meets Hyde and is disgusted by him. Dr Lanyon has fallen out with Jekyll over his "unscientific" ideas.

The Carew Murder

A maid sees Hyde beat Sir Danvers Carew, a respected MP, to death with a cane. Hyde disappears.

The Letter and the Window

Jekyll shows Utterson a letter supposedly from Hyde, but Utterson's clerk notices the handwriting matches Jekyll's. Lanyon dies after a terrible shock, and Utterson and Enfield see Jekyll at a window, his face frozen in terror.

The Last Night

The butler Poole fetches Utterson. They break into Jekyll's laboratory and find Hyde dead, but no sign of Jekyll.

The Final Revelations

Lanyon's letter reveals he watched Hyde drink a potion and turn into Jekyll. Jekyll's full statement explains that he made the potion to separate the good and evil sides of himself, but lost control, began to change into Hyde without it, and ran out of the ingredient he needed.

Characters

Hyde's victim Sir Danvers Carew, a respected MP, shows that even the most respectable members of society are not safe.

Dr Henry Jekyll

A respected doctor and scientist who hides his darker desires and creates Hyde to indulge them. He loses control as Hyde grows stronger and his better self weakens.

Mr Edward Hyde

Jekyll's evil side: small, violent and repulsive. People feel instant disgust when they see him but cannot say why. His brutal acts reveal the violence hidden beneath respectable society.

Gabriel John Utterson

A rational, loyal lawyer whose step-by-step, detective-like investigation drives the story. Most of the novella follows him.

Dr Hastie Lanyon

A traditional scientist and Jekyll's old friend, who rejects Jekyll's experiments and is destroyed by the shock of what he sees.

Poole

Jekyll's loyal butler, who raises the alarm on the last night.

Richard Enfield

Utterson's cousin, who first tells the story of Hyde and the door.

Themes

The central ideas examiners expect you to explore, linked to the fears of Stevenson's Victorian readers.

Duality

Everyone has a good side and an evil side. Jekyll states it directly: "man is not truly one, but truly two".

Good and Evil

Jekyll's attempt to separate good from evil ends with evil taking over completely.

Science and Religion

Jekyll's experiments overreach, as if he is playing God. Stevenson questions what science should be allowed to do.

Reputation and Secrecy

Victorian gentlemen protect their reputations and avoid scandal, even at the cost of the truth. Utterson's loyalty to Jekyll keeps the secret hidden.

Repression and Violence

Strict Victorian morals force people to hide their desires. When they break out, as Hyde, they erupt as violence, suggesting hypocrisy in polite society.

Key Quotes

Learn who says each line, where it comes in the story, and which theme it supports.

"like some damned Juggernaut"

Enfield, Story of the Door. Mechanical, destructive imagery for Hyde trampling the girl: he is unstoppable and inhuman.

"I shall be Mr. Seek"

Utterson, Search for Mr Hyde: "If he be Mr. Hyde, I shall be Mr. Seek." His determination to uncover the mystery, and the novella's detective structure.

"Satan's signature upon a face"

Utterson, Search for Mr Hyde. Religious imagery presents Hyde as devilish. In the same chapter he is described as "pale and dwarfish".

"with ape-like fury"

The narrator, The Carew Murder Case. Animal imagery presents Hyde as primitive and less than human, echoing Victorian fears raised by Darwin.

"man is not truly one, but truly two"

Jekyll, Full Statement. The clearest statement of the novella's central idea: the duality of human nature.

"losing hold of my original and better self"

Jekyll, Full Statement: "I was slowly losing hold of my original and better self". Evil gradually takes over.

Context

The fears of the 1880s that Stevenson's readers would have recognised.

Victorian Respectability

Reputation mattered enormously, and gentlemen were expected to hide anything shameful. Public respectability could cover private vice, as in Jekyll's double life.

Darwin and Evolution

On the Origin of Species (1859) raised fears that humans were close to animals and could slide backwards into savagery, which Hyde seems to embody.

Victorian London

Wealthy streets lay right beside poverty and crime, much like Jekyll's respectable house backing onto Hyde's sinister door.

Deacon Brodie

An Edinburgh craftsman who was respectable by day and a burglar by night, a story Stevenson knew well.

Gothic Fiction

The novella uses Gothic features such as mystery, darkness, fear and the hint of the supernatural.

Language and Structure

How Stevenson builds suspense and makes the duality theme visible.

Multiple Narrators

The story is pieced together from Utterson's view, Lanyon's letter and Jekyll's statement. The letters and documents give it the feel of a case being solved.

Delayed Revelation

The truth is withheld until the last two chapters, so readers investigate alongside Utterson and the suspense keeps building.

Gothic Setting

Fog, darkness and empty night-time streets create fear and hide what is really happening.

Descriptions of Hyde

No one can say exactly what is wrong with him, so readers' imaginations make him more frightening than any description could.

Doors and Houses

Jekyll's grand front door and Hyde's shabby back door belong to the same building, like the two sides of one man.

How to revise with this mind map

1. Track Jekyll's decline. Note how he changes from a respected doctor in control of his experiment to a man who changes into Hyde against his will. Exam questions often ask how a character or idea develops across the novella.

2. Practise from an extract. You usually get an extract and are asked to write about the novella as a whole. Pick a passage, find which branches of the map it connects to, then plan an answer that moves out to the rest of the story.

3. Link imagery to duality. Doors, fog, animal descriptions of Hyde and the split house all point to the same idea. Collect examples and explain how each one shows a divided self.

4. Use Victorian fears as context. Explain why Hyde would frighten readers in 1886: fears about respectability, degeneration after Darwin, and what science might unleash.

5. Make it yours. Build your own Jekyll and Hyde map in Mindmapi from your class notes, and ask the AI about any branch you are unsure of. The answer is saved into that branch's notes for next time.