

Dr Jekyll hasn't been seen for a few weeks. He's in his laboratory and his **servant**, Poole, is worried. He asks Mr Utterson, an old friend of Dr Jekyll to come to Dr Jekyll's house.

## START THINKING ...

### 1 Work in small groups. Discuss the questions.

- Do you think it's important for all students to study Science?
- Do you think science can be dangerous? Why or why not?
- Do you like science fiction books and films? Why or why not?

## THE STRANGE CASE OF DR JEKYLL AND MR HYDE (1886) Robert Louis Stevenson

'Jekyll,' shouted Mr Utterson through the closed door, 'I want to see you!' He waited a moment but there was no reply.

'Utterson,' said a voice, 'No, no, you mustn't enter!'

5 'That's not Jekyll's voice – it's Hyde's,' said Utterson. 'We must break down the door, Poole.'

When they finally managed to enter, they stood and looked round the laboratory: it looked like an ordinary room, except for the bottles of **chemicals**. And then ... they  
10 saw the body of a man lying in the middle of the room.

Utterson and Poole walked over to it – it was Edward Hyde. He was wearing clothes that were much too big for him – clothes that were Dr Jekyll's size. In his hand, he held a glass bottle and there was a strong smell of chemicals in  
15 the room.

'We have arrived too late,' Utterson said. 'Hyde is dead. Now we have to find Dr Jekyll.' They searched the house from top to bottom but they could find no **trace** of him.

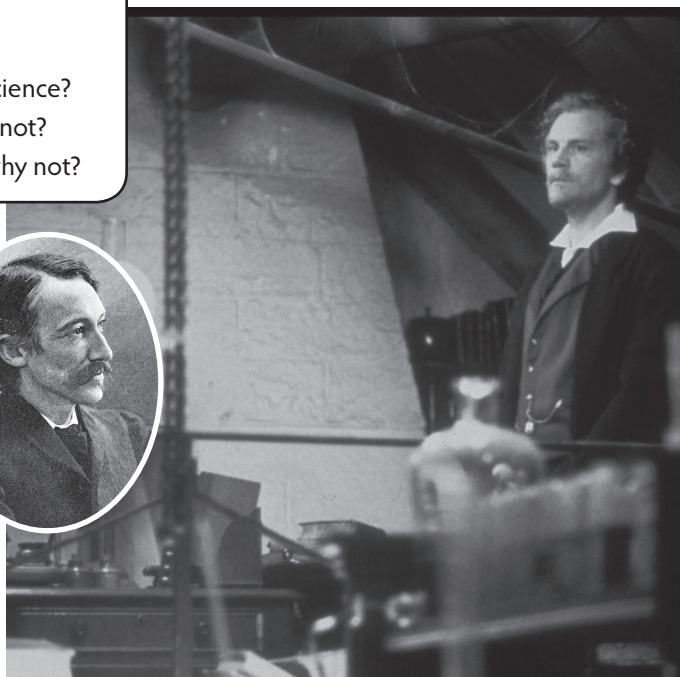
20 'He must have **run away**,' said Utterson. 'This is a mystery. Let's go back to the laboratory.'

They **proceeded to examine** the contents of the laboratory. On one table, they found traces of a white chemical, like salt, which had been prepared for an experiment.

25 'That is the chemical he buys from the chemist's. I usually get it for him,' said Poole.

There was a big mirror in one corner. Poole looked in it and said slowly, 'This mirror has seen some strange things.'

30 'But what I don't understand is why Dr Jekyll needed a mirror in his laboratory,' said Utterson.



Next they turned their attention to the desk. Among the papers and books, Utterson noticed an **envelope**. It had his name on it in Dr Jekyll's handwriting. He opened the envelope and took out the documents. One of them  
35 was Dr Jekyll's **will**.

'I just don't understand it! He must have been here today. Look at this document, it's got today's date on it!' said Mr Utterson.

40 'There's a letter in the envelope too. Why don't you read it, sir?' said Poole.

*'My dear Utterson, When you read this, I won't be here. I have a **feeling** that the end is near. Read the letter from Dr Lanyon and if you want to know more, read my **confession**. Your unhappy friend, Henry Jekyll.'*

45 'Is there anything else in the envelope?' asked Utterson.

'Here sir,' said Poole and gave him a thick packet. Mr Utterson put it in his pocket. 'Don't say anything about these documents. It's ten o'clock now. I must go home and read them in peace. I'll come back before midnight and  
50 then we'll call the police.'

## Glossary

**servant** someone who works and lives in someone else's house

**chemical** a substance that is used in chemistry or produced by chemistry

**trace** proof that someone or something was in a place

**run away** to secretly leave a place because you are unhappy there

**proceed to** to do something after you have done something else

**examine** to look at someone or something very carefully, especially to try to discover something

**envelope** a flat paper container for a letter

**will** a piece of paper that says who will get your money, house and things when you die

**feeling** an idea that something is true or exists

**confession** a statement someone makes to say that they have done something wrong

- 2 **▶▶3A.1** Read the text and listen.
- 3 Read the text again. Write the questions for the answers.
- Because Dr Jekyll refused to open it.
  - The body of a man who was wearing clothes that were too big for him.
  - They don't know. They think he must have escaped.
  - They don't know why there is a mirror in the laboratory.
  - Because they find a document written by Dr Jekyll with today's date on it.
  - Mr Utterson takes the documents home so that he can read them.
- 4 **READ BETWEEN THE LINES** Answer the questions. Give reasons and examples from the text.
- How do you think the man died? Why?
  - Where do you think Dr Jekyll is?
  - What does Poole mean by 'This mirror has seen some strange things?'
  - What information do you think Mr Utterson will discover in the documents?
- 5 **VOCABULARY** Complete the sentences with the correct words from the glossary in the correct form.
- The smallest \_\_\_\_\_ of arsenic can kill you.
  - After discovering electromagnetic induction, Faraday \_\_\_\_\_ give Chemistry lectures.
  - Although some people say they have a \_\_\_\_\_ that something bad will happen, other people look for evidence that something is wrong.
  - Upper-class families all had \_\_\_\_\_ in the 1880s; the majority were female as they were cheaper.
  - When a crime has been committed, forensic scientists \_\_\_\_\_ the evidence at the scene.
  - Aluminium, Zinc and Calcium are all \_\_\_\_\_ which were discovered in the 19th Century.
- 6 **VOCABULARY** Underline five words in the text that are new to you. Look them up in a dictionary and then write each of them in a sentence.
- 7 **ROLE PLAY** Work in pairs. Utterson and Poole have just broken down the door. Student A is Utterson, Student B is Poole. Read the beginning of the conversation and then continue it with your own ideas. Say what you can see, hear and smell.
- UTTERSON Careful! It's very dark in here. It smells, doesn't it?
- POOLE Yes. Look at the floor. It's disgusting.

- 8 **LISTENING** **▶▶3A.2** Listen to the next part of the story. Put the words in the order you hear them. There are two words that you do not hear.

- |                                      |                                    |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> glass       | <input type="checkbox"/> potion    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> notebook    | <input type="checkbox"/> poison    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> experience  | <input type="checkbox"/> visitor   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> experiments | <input type="checkbox"/> terrified |

- 9 **▶▶3A.2** Listen again. Complete the summary. Write one word.

I collected a notebook and two <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ from Dr Jekyll's laboratory. The visitor arrived at <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. He was <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ and had an evil face. I thought he might be Mr <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. He immediately mixed a <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ and then drank it. His body started to get <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ and his face <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. I was <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

## WRITING Dialogue

- 10 **WRITING** Imagine the scene after Mr Hyde has turned back into Dr Jekyll. Write a dialogue between Dr Lanyon and Dr Jekyll as Dr Jekyll tries to explain his transformation.

- Use a dialogue tag (e.g. *he said, I asked*) before or after each line of dialogue.
- Begin each new speaker on a new line.
- Use quotation marks around the dialogue and begin each spoken sentence with a capital letter.
- Put question marks or commas inside the quotation marks (e.g. 'Is there anything else in the envelope?' asked Utterson).
- Include descriptions of the scene and other characters' reactions. Remember that you are writing a dialogue, not a script.
- Read your dialogue aloud to check it sounds realistic.

## THINK THEMES

A theme is the main idea or meaning of a work of literature. It is often described by a single word: *love, conflict, betrayal, crime*, etc. The reader understands the theme through the words and actions of the characters.

A story can have more than one theme. The themes in *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* are: double life, science, deception and ignorance.

- 11 Think of your favourite novel(s) or film(s) and discuss the themes with a partner. What are the themes? How are they developed? Why are they important?