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# DR JEKYLL AND MR HYDE



Teaching pack: Patrícia de la Sierra

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## **NOTE TO TEACHERS**

On our website *(www.transeduca.com)* you will find the entire script of the play. Download it! You can work on this play with your students before going to the theatre. Enjoy!

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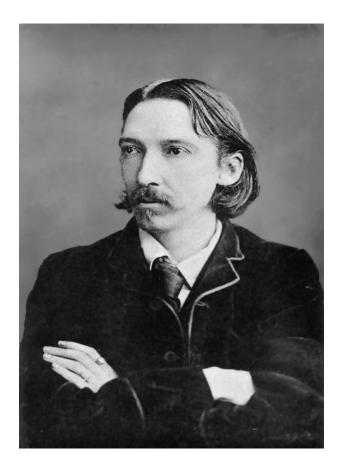


## BEFORE GOING TO THE THEATRE

#### 1. Who is the author of the novel?

Robert Louis Stevenson (13 November 1850 - 3 December 1894) was a Scottish novelist, poet and writer. He was born in Edinburgh. In 1867, he went to Edinburgh University, but he really wanted to be a writer. His parents suggested studying law and he did. But he continued to write. In 1875, Stevenson went to live in northern France. There he met an American woman called Fanny Osbourne. Fanny was married with two children, and she was 10 years older than Stevenson. She came from Indiana in the United States. Fanny and Stevenson fell in love. Fanny left her husband and, in 1880, she and Stevenson were married. In 1888, he and Fanny went to live in Samoa. He died there in 1894, at the age of 44.

Stevenson wrote a number of books.



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## 2. Complete this table by looking for information on the Internet:

NOVEL	YEAR
The Hair Trunk or The Ideal Commonwealth	1877
Treasure Island	
	1885
	1886
Kidnapped	1886
	1888
The Master of Ballantrae	
	1889
The Wrecker	
	1893
The Ebb-Tide	
Weir of Hermiston	
	1897

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## 3.The story.

Read our summary of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde.

It features the double lives of Dr Jekyll, a well-respected chemist, and Mr Hyde, a criminal who is wanted for murder. Mr Utterson, our narrator, is a London lawyer who is a friend of Dr Jekyll. Jekyll gave up his regular practice to experiment with non-traditional medicine.

One day, Dr Jekyll locks himself into his laboratory. He yells to the servant through the door, Mary, the girl who dances in a club, telling her to gather chemicals for him. He creates a potion that releases his evil side, Mr Hyde.

For a while Jekyll enjoys his two selves. He can do whatever he likes without fear of discovery. Gradually, Hyde's acts of cruelty become worse and worse, culminating in the murder of a famous man.

Finally, we learn the truth about the two men. They are one and the same. Jekyll has been conducting experiments to release the evil man inside his good self, but the experiments have gotten out of control. Mr Hyde emerges at will and he takes stronger and stronger doses of chemicals to return to the form of Jekyll. Finally, Jekyll runs out of chemicals and both he and Mary get killed.

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## **5.** Read these character descriptions and complete the ones for Jekyll and Hyde:

- Mr Utterson: lawyer and friend to Dr Jekyll, who narrates most of the story.
- Dr Lanyon: friend to both Utterson and Dr Jekyll.
- Carew: a well-liked old nobleman, a Member of Parliament, and a client of Utterson.
- Mary / Lucille: dancer at the Soho club who becomes Jekyll's assistant and ends up falling in love with him.

• Dr Henry Jekyll:	 	 
• Dr Edward Hyde:		

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6. In the play our main characters explain the revolutionary theory called psychoanalysis. In pairs answer these questions:

a. What is <i>psychoanalysis</i> ?
b. Who was Sigmund Freud?
c. Explain the following idea: conflicts between the conscious and the unconscious or
repressed thoughts can materialise in the form of mental or emotional disturbances
such as neurosis, neurotic traits, anxiety, depression, etc.



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## 7. In pairs define the following words from the play.

a. lawyer:	
b. neurologist:	
c. subconscious:	
d. repression:	
e.psyche:	
f.sickness:	
g. atheist:	
h.unhealthy:	
i.doomed:	
i.madness:	

## 8. Links to work with before going to the theatre:

- •http://study.com/academy/lesson/dr-jekyll-and-mr-hyde-summary-themescharacters-and-analysis.html
- http://www.sparknotes.com/lit/jekyll/context.html
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H1Pyjw\_ZnD8

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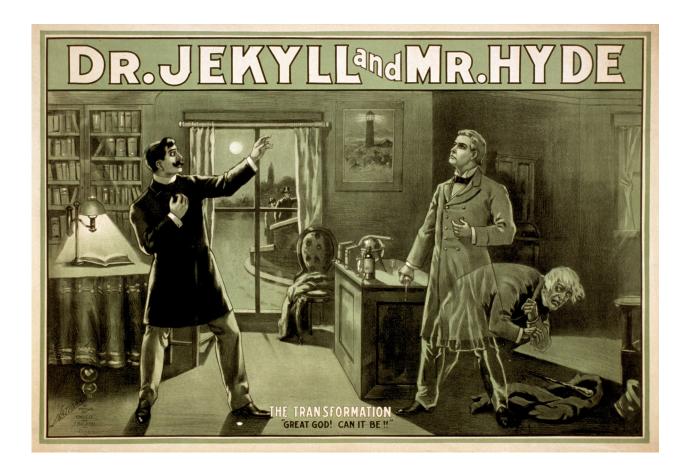
## AFTER GOING TO THE THEATRE

9. Write a short summary of the play.	
	٠.
10. What is the relationship between Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde?	

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## 11. Explain this picture after going to the theatre:



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## 12. Links to work with after going to the theatre:

- •http://www.ipaproductions.com/en/class\_activities/inactive/jekyllandhyde-activities.html
- •http://www.langenscheidt.de/\_files\_media/lkg\_uploads/lupo/RTJekyllHyde2.pdf
- •http://www.burlingtonbooks.com/Spain/Page.aspx?PageID=1724

13. You are a newspaper reporter. Write a report on the murder of Si Danvers Carew.	r
14. How do you feel after watching the show?	

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### **TEACHERS' NOTES AND ANSWERS**

#### 2.

The Hair Trunk or The Ideal Commonwealth 1877

Treasure Island 1883

Prince Otto 1885

Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde 1886

Kidnapped 1886

The Black Arrow: A Tale of the Two Roses 1888

The Master of Ballantrae 1889

The Wrong Box 1889

The Wrecker 1892

Catriona 1893

The Ebb-Tide 1894

Weir of Hermiston 1896

St Ives: Being the Adventures of a French Prisoner in England 1897

### 4.

Dr Henry Jekyll: Dr Jekyll is a good guy who plays by the rules. He reads books about religion and does charity work. Although Dr Jekyll throws dinner parties for his bachelor friends, the focus of his bachelor parties is science, religion, and literature.

Dr Edward Hyde: Mr Hyde is Dr Jekyll's evil alter ego who indulges in various undisclosed vices. He's smaller, younger, more energetic, and basically just a malevolent, villainous guy. He's frequently compared to a monkey or an ape, suggesting a certain inhumanity or bestiality.

http://www.shmoop.com/jekyll-and-hyde/dr-henry-jekyll.html

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a.

Psychoanalysis is a specific mind investigation technique and the therapy inspired by this investigation. Psychoanalysis designates three things: it is a method of mind investigation, especially of the unconscious mind; it is a therapy of neurosis inspired by the above method; and a new stand-alone discipline that is based on the knowledge acquired from applying the investigation method and clinical experiences.

http://www.freudfile.org/psychoanalysis/definition.html

b.

Sigmund Freud was an Austrian neurologist best known for developing the theories and techniques of psychoanalysis.

### 6.

a.

A person whose profession is to represent clients in a court of law or to advise or act for them in other legal matters.

b.

The branch of medicine dealing with the nervous system.

C.

That part of one's mind or mental processes that are hidden to an individual and yet have an influence or effect on that person.

d.

To keep down or hold back (memories, emotions, or impulses) unconsciously.

e.

The mental or psychological structure of a person.

f.

A particular disease or malady.

g.

A person who denies or disbelieves the existence of a supreme being or beings.

h

Not in a state of good or normal health; diseased.

i.

Ruined or ill-fated.

i.

The state of being mad; insanity.

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9.

We confront the theory of a dual human nature explicitly only after having witnessed all of the events of the novel, including Hyde's crimes and his ultimate eclipsing of Jekyll. The text not only posits the duality of human nature as its central theme but forces us to ponder the properties of this duality and to consider each of the novel's episodes as we weigh various theories.

Jekyll asserts that 'man is not truly one, but truly two', and he imagines the human soul as the battleground for an 'angel' and a 'fiend', each struggling for mastery. But his potion, which he hoped would separate and purify each element, succeeds only in bringing the dark side into being—Hyde emerges, but he has no angelic counterpart. Once unleashed, Hyde slowly takes over, until Jekyll ceases to exist. If man is half angel and half fiend, one wonders what happened to the 'angel' at the end of the novel.

Perhaps the angel gives way permanently to Jekyll's devil. Or perhaps Jekyll is simply mistaken: man is not 'truly two' but is first and foremost the primitive creature embodied in Hyde, brought under tentative control by civilization, law, and conscience. According to this theory, the potion simply strips away the civilized veneer, exposing man's essential nature. Certainly, the novel goes out of its way to paint Hyde as animalistic—he is hairy and ugly; he conducts himself according to instinct rather than reason; Utterson describes him as a 'troglodyte', or primitive creature.

Yet if Hyde were just an animal, we would not expect him to take such delight in crime. Indeed, he seems to commit violent acts against innocents for no reason except the joy of it—something that no animal would do. He appears deliberately and happily immoral rather than amoral; he knows the moral law and basks in his breach of it. For an animalistic creature, furthermore, Hyde seems oddly at home in the urban landscape. All of these observations imply that perhaps civilization, too, has its dark side.

Ultimately, while Stevenson clearly asserts human nature as possessing two aspects, he leaves the question open of what these aspects constitute. Perhaps they consist of evil and virtue; perhaps they represent one's inner animal and the veneer that civilization has imposed. Stevenson enhances the richness of the novel by leaving us to look within ourselves to find the answers.

http://www.sparknotes.com/lit/jekyll/themes.html