Mr Enfield tells his friend Mr Utterson about a man who ‘trampled’ over a young girl. The man is identified as Mr Hyde. Utterson later becomes worried about a friend of his, Dr Jekyll, who has named Hyde as beneficiary in his will and tries to obtain more information about Hyde. Utterson asks Jekyll about his work and explains what he has learned about Mr Hyde. Jekyll refuses to discuss it. Hyde is witnessed brutally attacking Sir Danvers Carew who later dies. Utterson helps the police who can find no evidence Hyde exists except for a bank account. Utterson and Dr Lanyon socialise with Jekyll until he cuts off contact with them. Lanyon becomes ill and dies but leaves a letter for Utterson to open only when Jekyll disappears or dies.

Utterson and Enfield briefly glimpse Jekyll who then isolates himself again. The worried butler Poole contacts Utterson who breaks into Jekyll’s lab and finds Hyde dead. Utterson finds Jekyll’s revised will and statement. Lanyon’s letter reveals how he witnessed Hyde transform into Jekyll. The novella ends with Jekyll’s account of events as he explains why he had no choice but to bring his science to an end in order to destroy Hyde.

The M.P. beaten to death by Hyde. He is elderly, “aged and beautiful”. Carew is trampled over a young girl. The man is identified as Mr Enfield. He politely greets guests and is ordered to obey Hyde. He is loyal and concerned for his employer. Towards the end of the novel as he fears foul play, and concerned for his employer, Poole turns into Jekyll.

Jekyll’s violent alter-ego. Hyde is small, animalistic and wicked with “a black sneering coolness”. He tramples a girl and violently murders an old man. He becomes increasingly powerful but is defeated by Jekyll.

One of Jekyll’s oldest friends. He is a lawyer. He is serious: “never lighted by a smile”, protective, loyal and shy “yet somehow loveable”. He is not judgmental. He is concerned for Jekyll, not afraid to confront Hyde when he meets him and supports the investigation of Hyde’s crimes.

Also a friend of Dr Jekyll. Lanyon is a reputable scientist who describes Jekyll’s work as “unscientific balderdash”. He is sickened and terrified to death by the transformation he witnesses as Hyde turns into Jekyll.

A distant relation of Mr Utterson. He is a “well known man about town” who enjoys his weekly Sunday walk with Utterson. He witnesses Hyde trample a young girl. He discovers Hyde went into Jekyll’s house to get money to compensate the girl.

Jekyll’s butler. He politely greets guests and is ordered to obey Hyde. He is loyal and concerned for his employer. Towards the end of the novel as he fears foul play, he alerts Utterson.

The main character. He is a handsome Victorian gentleman from a privileged background. He is sociable, and well-liked. He believes in the “primitive duality of man”. He wants his scientific work to be respected but cannot control it. He redeems himself at the end of the novel.

Written by Stevenson in 1866 and set in London, the novella is a direct comment on Victorian society. The novel explores the importance of respectability and reputation in contrast to the appeal of violence, wickedness and evil.

Stevenson was influenced by scientific advances of the era. Science is presented as both fascinating, dangerous and transformative.

The novella is also influenced by ideas about evolution. Charles Darwin's 'The Origin of The Species', published in 1859, suggested that man evolved from apes in direct conflict with Victorian religious beliefs.

Stevenson explores the dual nature of man and place. Hyde represents the more sinister and sinful alter-ego of Jekyll’s character. Hyde lives in Soho, an area of London linked to poverty and prostitution, in contrast to Jekyll’s home in a reputable, gentrified area of London.

The novella contains elements of detective fiction popular in the 19th Century as Hyde is pursued for the murder of Sir Danvers Carew.

While not a typical Gothic horror, the novella includes frightening events which would have seemed horrific to Victorian readers.

Read, understand and respond to texts. Students should be able to:
- use textual references, and quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations
- maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response.

Assessment Objectives
AO1, AO2 are equally weighted for this question
- AO1 Read, understand and respond to texts. Students should be able to:
  - use textual references, and quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations
  - maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response.
- AO3 AO2 Analyse the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate.
  - Show understanding of the contexts in which the text was written.

Tips
- Support points with reference to characters and events and refer back to the question set.
- The provided extract can be useful for language analysis (AO2).
- Remember to integrate points of context into discussion of the characters, events and themes.
The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this question.

You should use the extract below and your knowledge of the whole novel to answer the question.

Write about Dr Jekyll and how he is presented at different points in the novel.

In your response you should:
- refer to the extract and the novel as a whole
- show your understanding of characters and events in the novel
- refer to the contexts of the novel.

Exemplar response

Doctor Jekyll is a well-liked, “smooth faced man of fifty”. He is a Victorian gentleman who appears to be respectable and respected. Stevenson's novella reveals that this is not true because beneath this façade Jekyll is “not truly one but two”.

At the beginning of the novel Jekyll is presented as a sociable intellectual as he hosts dinners for “intelligent reputable men”. He shows a “sincere and warm affection” for his guests however there are subtle reference to his “slyish cast” and the experiments he conducts which are described as “scientific heresies” suggesting they are sinister and unnatural.

The mood at the beginning of the novel changes further when Utterson challenges Jekyll about his will and the beneficiary Hyde. Here the adverb “sharply” shows Jekyll becomes increasingly annoyed. As Utterson pursues the topic the adjective “pale” and the symbolic “blackness about his eyes” show how uncomfortable Jekyll is discussing Hyde as he fears that his secret has been discovered.

Jekyll repeats that his position is “very strange” in the extract. He becomes increasingly isolated throughout the novella. At first, the listing of comparatives show he enjoys a “younger, lighter, happier” freedom as Hyde but he struggles to come to terms with Hyde’s violent behaviour as his alter ego becomes more powerful. Darwin’s theory of evolution seems to influence events as Hyde exhibits primitive violent behaviour: trampling a young girl and killing Sir Danvers Carew in an “ape like fury” shocking all those who witness these events, the reader and Jekyll himself.

Stevenson presents Jekyll’s experiment as a crime as he becomes a “prisoner” in his own home and to Hyde. He displays “abject terror and despair” when speaking to Utterson and Enfield from his window and his decline is also reflected in his butler’s fear and concern for him. Jekyll’s “scientific balderdash” is out of control as he also loses control of his transformations into the primitive Mr Hyde and he is heard “weeping like a woman or a lost soul”.

The two first person narratives at the end of the text reveal the true horror of Jekyll’s actions as Lanyon recalls (and then dies from shock) watching Hyde transform into Jekyll. Stevenson ends the text with Jekyll’s “full statement of the case” which provides a full account of events as though this scientific experiment has been on trial.

Jekyll embodies the fight between good and evil. He finally redeems himself by bringing his own life “to an end” which indirectly brings Hyde to justice. Stevenson presents Jekyll as an example to Victorian readers of the “malign and villainous” dangers of “pleasure seeking”.

Commentary

The opening sentence shows a clear focus on the question and addresses the character directly. The candidate brings in contextual points such as the unnatural nature of experiments and links to “Darwin’s theory of evolution”. The response tracks the way Jekyll changes in the text and explores some AO2 points about technique. The candidate discusses Stevenson’s intentions in writing the novella. The extract and appropriate direct references from other parts of the text support the candidate's astute points.

Overall this response shows assured understanding of the demands of the task and covers all the Assessment Objectives in a sustained, integrated way.