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GCSE (9–1)

Candidate Style Answers

J352

ENGLISH LITERATURE

**Component 1 Section B:
19th century prose
The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll
and Mr Hyde - Robert
Louis Stevenson**

January 2016



OCR
Oxford Cambridge and RSA

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J352/01**Section B: 19th century prose****The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde Q13**

In this task AO1 and AO2 are equally dominant assessment objectives: the emphasis is therefore on sustaining a critical style and informed personal response, supported by an analytical approach to language. AO3 is also important: responses should show understanding of the relationship of text to context. This should include understanding of 19th century literary conventions and the expectations of readers, and how context influences the way we read the text today. A mark out of 4 is awarded for spelling, punctuation, vocabulary and sentence structures (AO4).

The question asks about the ways in which Stevenson presents Mr Hyde as the 'evil' alter ego of Jekyll through the eyes of Dr Lanyon, who is of course unaware of his identity. Nineteenth-century preoccupations with status, the gentleman, evolutionary theory, addiction and the gothic might all inform a response. The question prompts exploration of other ways in which Hyde is presented in the novel, such as his first appearance, and with the darker aspects of human nature which he represents.



Script A

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Script A

English Test

J352/01 Q13

16th March 2015

In this passage, which occurs during Dr. Lanyon's narrative, Lanyon receives a visit from Mr. Hyde. This passage comes after the transformation of Jekyll into Hyde, but Jekyll needs the powders to turn back to Hyde. He is presented as evil in his manner and appearance. Stevenson presents him this way without being too vivid on his aesthetics and full appearance.

Stevenson the author presents Hyde as evil from the very start of the detail, although in an indirect way, "I can only describe as a disgusting curiosity". Although Lanyon is not talking about Hyde the use of the form of the adjective 'disgust' sets a tone for his visitor. 'Disgustful' has connotations of something wrong or something different it leaves a bad image. 'Disgust' gives the effect that Lanyon is drawn to Hyde from the very second he lays eyes on him. Calling someone disgusting without even conversing with them sets a tone something is abnormally weird and odd one is compelled by this 'curiosity' to study it.

However, although the clothes Hyde wears is something out of the ordinary there is no direct text relating to Hyde facial appearance, everything else is mentioned yet Stevenson chooses not to go into any of Hydes face, this can be interpreted two ways, the elephant in the room, is that no mention of the face draws an image that the reader has to make up, a dark, evil face to go along with the odd clothing. Leaving Hydes facial features to ones imagination

...continued

Script A

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creates a dark uncertainty, which becomes clearer in the mind of the reader as Hyde's personality becomes clear. Another more practical reason is Stevenson wished not to try and define Hyde to stop his Victorian readers trying to relate Hyde to a real person.

At the climax of the first paragraph, Lanyon starts to revel in Hyde's 'abnormality'. 'Abnormal' gives the effect that Lanyon is taken aback by the 'creature' before him. 'creature' refers to the way that Hyde is presented low down in the evolutionary ladder. The words 'ape' and 'animal' are used throughout to describe Hyde. The last word in the tri-colon, 'revolting' is Lanyon expressing in one single word, Hyde's appearance to him. Most other adjectives describing Hyde draw the effect of revulsion.

Also, in this passage, Hyde is presented as evil in further depth after his outburst at Lanyon, "impatience". Hyde's inability to wait draws the effect that he is not taught to be polite, or even able to control himself, relating back to his 'disparity'. 'Icy pang' This presents Hyde's back as evil, draws emphasis on Hyde's outburst. 'Icy' gives the effect of a cold toad, of Hyde, which could show that he, Hyde, has a cold heart. 'pang' is a powerful representation that Hyde causes pain 'blood' gives connotations of red which draws to a conclusion that the 'blood' is the anger that Hyde's 'evil' nature has caused.

Before this passage in the Carew 'murder case' Hyde

...continued



Script A

Page 3 of 3

is also represented as evil. "broke out in a great flame of anger" this is a metaphor for a fire converging on his anger. Immediately 'fire' and 'broke' suggest spontaneous and unprovoked anger that he focuses on Carew. "with an ape like face" This continues with the de-evolutionary idea that Hyde is lower on the evolutionary ladder. 'fury' implies anger and ferocity, something someone only so evil can draw.

Hyde is also represented in an evil manner again in the chapter "Search for Mr Hyde". In a paragraph there is much use of adjectives such as 'deformity', 'boldness' and a certain 'unknown disgust'. All of which can and are being associated with something very evil. 'unknown disgust' is an oxymoron which draws heavy references to the start of the extract when Hyde wants his partners.

Overall Hyde is presented as evil in the extract and on many other occasions throughout the novel. Stevenson does this in a number of ways but the overall image of Hyde is one with evil very much in the forefront.



Script A

Examiner commentary

This response is written in a convincing critical style with some insightful understanding. It is an informed personal response to both text and task.

The candidate begins by correctly placing the passage and understanding both its narrative context and Stevenson's use of Dr Lanyon's perspective. There is clear understanding that Mr Hyde's desperation actually reflects Dr Jekyll's desire to resume his original identity. This response quickly moves beyond narrative to consider the writer's purpose, appreciating that Stevenson wants to present evil through Hyde's 'manner and appearance' but for that evil to remain somewhat undefined.

Lanyon's 'disgustful curiosity' is immediately referenced and analysed. This paragraph shows how textual references are well-selected and integrated (AO1). Lanyon is correctly seen as both drawn to Hyde and repulsed by what he sees as abnormally weird. There is thoughtful and developed analysis of the writer's decision to say a lot about Hyde's clothes but almost nothing about his face: the candidate describes this as 'the elephant in the room'. This personal response is further developed. Hyde's face is imagined as an image the reader has to make up, a 'dark uncertainty' which gives scope for the imagination to work. There is also awareness that Stevenson had to be careful not to make Hyde resemble a recognisable real person.

Lanyon's rhetorical language is seen as starting to 'revel in Hyde's abnormality'. The writer's use of the term 'creature' is explored and related to Victorian concerns about the 'evolutionary ladder'. Other animal references in the extract (AO2) are also selected and integrated to show that this is an element of Hyde's 'evil' nature. Connotations of language are understood (AO2), as is the term tricolon, and although anaphora is incorrectly used for the alliterative phrase 'seizing, surprising', the climactic term 'revolting' is understood as the most frequent response to Hyde. There is a sense that Hyde's evil is actually hard to define but strongly emotive.

It is understood that Hyde has never been taught to be polite and that this influences his abrupt behaviour towards Lanyon. Lanyon's 'icy pang' is seen as a reaction to Hyde's own cold heart, and this is understood to have an effect on the 'blood'. The candidate's language and explanation are not entirely clear here, but there is an appreciation that Hyde creates a visceral reaction with dangerous consequences.

The candidate moves beyond the passage to consider similar language surrounding Carew's murder: Hyde is associated with anger and violence associated with different rungs on the evolutionary ladder from the civilised milieu of the story's narrators. More consideration of the difference between the world of the Victorian gentleman and the bestial depravity of the world of Hyde would give this response more reward.

Other instances are also cited of language which portrays the 'unknown disgust' provoked by Hyde, showing that evil in the novel is more pervasive for its lack of clear definition. Knowledge of the text is clearly good and there is understanding of why Stevenson chose to make 'evil' in the novel so undefined.

Overall language is analysed effectively and the response is well-developed. It is not yet consistently effective in its use of relevant subject terminology, but there is reasonably convincing understanding of some aspects of context and how they inform response to the text. More detailed response to the writer's use of language, form and structure and how they help him to achieve his overall purpose would lift this high ability answer further within the top two bands.

Spelling and punctuation are mostly accurate and a wide vocabulary is used.

Level 5



Script B

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(5) (1)
The strange case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

Explore how Stevenson pretends 'evil' through the pretensions of Mr Hyde, in this extract and elsewhere in the novel.

In this passage, Stevenson portrays Hyde as a sort of chaotic evil man. Hyde goes to visit Lanyon to get 'powders' presumably for the poison and he goes about it a very rude and disruptive way, he even goes as far as to lay hands on Lanyon. It's these features which Stevenson gives to Hyde which help to build up the 'evil' imagery of Hyde throughout the passage and throughout the entire novel.

The way that Hyde is dressed would be considered to be laughable on most people but on Hyde it just adds to his eerie presence, this is shown when Stevenson writes about the way Hyde is dressed, he says that his 'trousers hanging on his legs' that the 'wrist of the coat below his haunches' and that the 'collar sprawling wide upon his shoulders'. However he finishes of his description by writing about how Lanyon is effected by it, he wrote that 'there was something abnormal and misbegotten' in every way about Hyde, he was so abnormally deformed in a way to fit his personality making Hydes appearance so twisted and the almost comic clothing makes Hyde all the more terrifying to be around. When Hyde got around to asking Lanyon for the powder he was aggressive and violently, when

...continued

Script B

Page 2 of 2

he asked he 'cried' for it and Hyde's 'impatience' to get a hold of the powder was shown when he layed hands on Lanyon, you see it when Stevenson writes 'he even laid his hand upon my arm and sought to shake me'. This even shows a sense of desperation in Hyde and it gives an image of Hydes dependence on the powder. When Lanyon touched Hyde it still builds up to a concept of 'evil' within him as upon contact Lanyon felt an 'icy pang' in his blood which could be a comparison to an evil supernatural being whos blood runs cold such as a vampire.

That could also represent that Hyde is a very pure form of 'evil' and he can only be compared to some of the most evil supernatural creature. It is clear throughout the passage that Lanyon is terrified of Hyde and has it confirmed when Lanyon says 'the horror I had of my visitor'. That portrays Lanyons fear of Hyde and also I believe shows Lanyon in a new light of even though Lanyon is scared of Hyde he shows immense bravery by remaining calm and composed in front of him.

In conclusion Stevenson presents Hydes 'evil' very clearly throughout ~~the~~ ~~passage~~ both the passage and the novel. Every appearance of Hyde is followed by suspense and his brutal personality is shown often especially coming out in the descriptions of Hydes murders. He puts out a certain power which allows him to intimidate anyone in his presence which is shown in the passage.



Script B

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Hyde's evil attributes are portrayed very strongly at each appearance which is what makes him such a strong yet terrifying character.



Script B

Examiner commentary

This response is written in a convincing critical style and is a detailed personal response to both text and task.

This is a clearer response than Script A, although not always so perceptive or wide-ranging. It is more precise and detailed in its analysis of language (AO2). However, it is less confident in placing the passage in its context, either within the novel as a whole or in Victorian society (AO3) and as a detailed personal response it shows 'clear understanding' rather than 'some insightful understanding' (AO1).

Mr Hyde is instantly identified as not only evil but 'chaotic', showing clear understanding of ways in which he transgresses social norms. He is rightly seen as 'rude and disruptive' and his desperate hunt for the powders, going so far as laying a hand on Lanyon, is seen as part of the way his evil progresses through the novel as a whole, showing an understanding of narrative context.

There is a developed response to the ways in which language presents Hyde's disturbingly abnormal appearance (AO2) with some appreciation that this scene of horror is also at times on the brink of comedy, making it 'eery'. The deformity of Hyde's appearance is analysed as a metaphor for the deformity of his personality. Language is explored to highlight the aggression and dependency it communicates. A little contextual explanation of Victorian attitudes to addiction and dependency might have developed these observations further (AO3).

The comparison with other gothic embodiments of evil from the same period, such as the 'vampire' is well made. Hyde is seen as a 'very pure form of evil', although the relationship between what is natural and supernatural about his evil might have been examined further. Lanyon's own terror, and bravery in confronting this evil, are supported with well-selected and fully integrated quotations (AO1).

This well-organised response concludes by making some comparisons with the ways in which Hyde's personality is 'brutal' and has an intimidating effect at other points in the novel, especially the murders, but this point would have been stronger if illustrated with quotation.

There are elements of top-band analysis here in response to language and textual detail, but comparison and context both need development, and individual observations could thus be more convincingly linked to a critical understanding of the text as a whole.

Spelling and punctuation are mostly accurate and a wide vocabulary is used.

Level 5



Script C

Page 1 of 2

1. During 'The strange case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde' there are many occurrences as this evil being ~~is~~ portrayed as Mr Hyde. The start of this particular passage is "this person". This already gives a sense of evil as Mr Hyde is referred to as an abstract object creating the feeling that he might not even be ~~just~~ human. Next the author describes Hyde in a dim light. No physical features or specific details are included to create mystery about the character. In this case Hyde's appearance is only described as "disgusting curiosity". Hyde's clothes are then described for a sinister man. Hyde is wearing luxurious clothes. However they are "enormously too large". At first this creates the audience to think he has stolen these clothes but later on we come to realise ~~is~~ because Hyde is just pure evil he has shrunk. Both of these thoughts create Hyde to look like a small man. Next the pure evil look of Hyde creates his hysterical look of a clown with huge clothes to not more the onlookers to laugh. Then carrying on from the fact that Hyde is described in a mysterious light he is described as abnormal and misbegotten. Normally if someone was deformed it would be obvious to see what was wrong. However with Hyde not one onlooker of him can see what is wrong? This suggests something deeper like his soul is twisted and sinister. Next Hyde is described as a "creature" ~~brings~~ ^{solidifying} the thought that he isn't human. He is also described as "revolting" to back this up. His appearance is then for emphasis described again in a haze. Lanyon is interested in his origin not birth ~~and~~ which again suggests he is not human but comes out of the darkest place in this world. Then Hyde speaks his first words to Lanyon. Hyde is "impetuous" and even uses his strength to pressure Lanyon. For a civilised human this would be unthinkable and the impatience of Hyde also suggests he might snap out at Lanyon at any second like an animal.

...continued



Script C

Page 2 of 2

The feeling of Lanyon when ~~Mr~~ Hyde ~~touches~~ touches him is one of the final ways Stevenson uses to build up the evil feeling of Hyde. The "icy pang" felt gives the impression that a tiny bit of the ferocity, anger and pure evil of Hyde has been passed to Lanyon in a single touch. Finally the final sentence is used as foreshadowing. This is due to it ending with the "horror" he felt in the presence of Hyde creating a foreboding atmosphere ~~of~~ of what is to come.

Many of these techniques are repeated throughout the novel in the appearances of Hyde. This is mainly done for emphasis building up to the realisation that Hyde is not human but the evil part of Jekyll!



Script C

Examiner commentary

This is a reasonably developed personal response to both text and task. It shows clear understanding of the passage, although it does little to move beyond it. Relevant textual references and quotations are selected to support the response and there is some analysis of the writer's use of language to create meanings and effects (AO2). There is contextual understanding of ways in which Mr Hyde's behaviour here violates social norms.

The introductory sentence is rather general and might have done more to place this passage in its narrative or thematic context. However, Mr Hyde is quickly seen as an evil being through his very anonymity, and treatment as an 'abstract object' that may not even be human. The writer's choices and purpose are evaluated: the lack of physical detail is seen as contributing to 'mystery about the character'. There is some analysis of the ways in which he does not seem to fit his clothes: more exploration of this as a metaphor, or contextual consideration of the importance of outward appearances to the Victorian notion of a gentleman, might have developed this answer further. There is a personal response to this presentation of Hyde as clown-like but hysterical rather than funny, and understanding of why he is a shrunken version of Jekyll. The symbolism of this might have been further developed.

The candidate asks in what way Hyde is 'abnormal and misbegotten' and yet no onlooker can pinpoint what makes him deformed. This shows personal response (AO1) supported by relevant quotation, and leads to a consideration of his spiritual deformity. More thought might be given here to Lanyon as a narrator. It is understood that the pressure Hyde exerts on him is more like that of an animal than a 'civilised human'.

This response is most successfully focused on the moment when Hyde touches Lanyon. The 'icy pang' is seen as a foreshadowing of other touches of evil, an insight which might have been further developed through specific quotations. The candidate shows both understanding and some interpretative ability when describing Hyde as not human but the evil part of Jekyll, but this statement demands further explanation.

Spelling and punctuation are mostly accurate and a reasonable range of vocabulary is used.

Level 3



Script D

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1. In this extract, Hyde has gone to visit Lanyon in order to receive some chemicals. Hyde, much like the rest of the novel, retains his repulsive presence here. His clothing is yet again described - clothing that would make somebody laugh, however they aren't able to because Hyde's very presence is ungrating to an 'ordinary person'. The feeling of disgust when Hyde is faced by anyone is also retained here much like the rest of the novel. Curiosity about Hyde being able to afford luxury clothes (although out of his height) but looking like a man who would have no job at all, because of his unwanted presence also strikes Lanyon. When someone is merely touched by Hyde (Lanyon) it's like a "lay pang" through the blood, showing once more the feeling of instability and evil. The aftermath of meeting Hyde is always the same - he always strikes fear into people's hearts. It's not just Hyde's appearance but just his very atmospheric presence which leaves a shock within people, but they still can't stop wondering how someone as negatively influential as Hyde came to be. Something about Hyde forcefully draws in this curiosity, however Lanyon still finds him revolting and wants to stay as far away as possible.

...continued



Script D

Examiner commentary

This begins to develop a straightforward personal response to the text showing some understanding (AO1). There is relevant textual support and simple comments the writer's use of language (AO2). Context is implied rather than explicitly addressed (AO3).

Hyde's 'repulsive presence' is understood with response to the fact that his clothing would normally be comic but in his case is 'unnerving'. There is broad reference to other parts of the novel, but a specific reference would have made this response more convincing. There is some developed comment on Hyde's clothing with implicit awareness of how this contributes to uncertainty about his social status and explanation of how this contributes to Lanyon's feelings of unease within the novel's context would have been helpful. This response also highlights the 'icy pang' Lanyon feels - relevant support from the text (AO1). The shock effect and the lingering sense of fear created by Hyde's appearances are referenced and more analysis of how this is communicated and why people are nevertheless curious about him would have led to higher award. The combination of the 'revolting' and the oddly charismatic is worth more developed and supported investigation.

Spelling and punctuation are mostly accurate and a reasonable range of vocabulary is used.

Level 3



Script E

Script E

1. Stevenson presents evil through Hyde by using a sense of mysteriousness and abnormality through which it is unable to be described. 'Disgustful curiosity' gives the effect that something is odd/evil about his appearance though his not able to comprehend it. Throughout the novel Hyde is described with very little detail, just described a sense of abnormality. 'Were enormously too large in every measurement' this links back to the fact that he is actually Jekyll's clothes.

'The creature that now faces me' gives the effect that he may not look like a human but more an animal. Could say that he is further down the evolutionary ladder, more apethan human. 'So lively with impatience' desperate to get his hands on the powders. Gives the impression of insanity and hyper activity in Hyde.

'This ridiculous accoutrement was far from moving me to laughter' gives a sinister impression of Hyde. As if Lanyon had sensed something bad was going to happen.

'A certain icy pang' reinforces the sinister impression that is being built up of Hyde. Just the touch of him is scary.

Overall Stevenson presents evil in Hyde without describing his actual facial features in detail, fear of the unknown can make someone seem more sinister.



Script E

Examiner commentary

This is a straightforward response to both text and task. A range of relevant points are made showing some understanding but lacking development. There is some relevant textual support (AO1) and simple comments on the writer's use of language (AO2). Context is only implicit (AO3).

There is an initial statement that Mr Hyde's 'abnormality' lies in the difficulty in describing exactly what it is about his appearance which is so disturbing. This is appropriately supported by Lanyon's reference to his own 'disgustful curiosity', although there might be more explicit comment on Lanyon as narrator. It is understood that Hyde is wearing Jekyll's clothes: the implications of this visual image could have been explored further.

There is supported awareness of the ways in which Hyde is seen as a 'creature' more ape than human, and this is developed with an implicitly contextual reference to 'the evolutionary ladder'. The implications of this and his desperate desire to get his hands on the potion could have been explored further.

There is also understanding that this moment foreshadows 'something bad was going to happen'. This comment might have been developed by connection to later events, such as the discovery of Jekyll's body.

The comment on 'fear of the unknown' shows some understanding and the response to the 'icy touch' shows a little awareness of language, but both these observations need more development to become more than basic comments.

Spelling is generally accurate but there are numerous punctuation errors, as many sentences are not properly formed.

Level 2 (low)



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