

The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde

“Story of a Door”
analysis questions

1. What parallels and contrasts exist between the novel's title and the first paragraph?
2. Make a list of the textual details that reveal negative and positive traits that the narrator identifies in Utterson. What does the contrast suggest about his character?
3. What does Utterson's Biblical allusion to Cain reveal about his personality? (Hint: Cain asks God, "Am I my brother's keeper?")
4. Select the five most apt adjectives to describe Utterson's complex character as revealed in the opening paragraph. You may not use any words that the narrator uses to describe him.
5. What does the repeated foreshadowing in the first paragraph suggest about the novella's plot?
6. Identify connections to 19th century ideologies (Romanticism, Marxism, Darwinism, Freudianism, Victorianism).