

***The Strange Case of
Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde***

“Henry Jekyll’s Full Statement
of the Case” analysis questions

1. Examine the chapter's first paragraph in detail. List six examples of diction that suggests duality. Then, create a t-chart, and record six details that are juxtaposed elements of that duality.
2. Jekyll says that he "hesitated" to "test" the "potion" he created because it could "[control] and [shake] the very fortress of identity" and might "blot out that immaterial tabernacle" that he hoped to "change." Define *fortress* and *tabernacle*; then, explain the implications of these metaphors.
3. In describing his transformation, Jekyll says that he "exult[ed] in the freshness" of "sensations" that were "tenfold more wicked," but that he became "suddenly aware that [he] had lost [his] stature." Discuss the double-meaning and significance of *stature*, particularly in terms of Darwinism, Freudianism, and Victorianism.
4. Jekyll admits that his own "pleasures" were "undignified" but "turn[ed] toward the monstrous" through Hyde. Select textual evidence that illustrates how Hyde's acts represent aspects of Darwinism and Freudianism.

5. In the middle of the chapter, Jekyll says that he “felt [he] had to choose” between his two selves and that the conflict is “as old and as commonplace as man.” Thematically, what does this turning point suggest about human nature and the human condition?
6. Both Jekyll and Lanyon provide first-person narratives of the same event. Structurally, why might Stevenson have chosen this repetition?
7. In terms of narrative structure, why does Stevenson end the novella with this story-within-a-story? How does it resolve plot questions about the mirror in the laboratory, the cheques, the similar handwriting, Jekyll’s orders to the chemists, the pacing Poole repeatedly hears, and Hyde’s death as well as larger thematic questions about Hyde’s appearance and size, others’ immediate reactions to Hyde, and Jekyll’s inability to control Hyde?
8. With the resolution of this final chapter, how do the motifs of the door, key, and mirror function symbolically in the novella?
9. How is the thematic concept of duality introduced at the beginning of the chapter transformed by the end of the chapter? Discuss the nature of the change, considering internal conflict, tone, imagery, and diction.