

- We are introduced to Mr Utterson (a lawyer) and Mr Enfield (a *'man about town'*) who are distant relations and close friends.
- Walking through the streets of London, Enfield tells a story of a shocking scene he had witnessed.
- A young girl collided with a man in the street who then *'trampled calmly'* over her body, leaving her hurt and screaming.
- Enfield chased the man, insisting that he pay compensation to the girl.
- The man pays partly in cash and partly with a cheque signed with a name that Enfield *'can't mention'* (Dr Jekyll).
- The man is named as Mr Hyde.





Think! How does Stevenson quickly present Hyde as different from the rest of society in Chapter 1?

This suggests being crushed by animals, cattle or horses or a crowd of people. This reinforces the man's lack of humanity.

The child's innocence contrasts with the violence of the man's actions; '*calmly*' suggests his lack of conscience.

“...the man trampled calmly over the child's body and left her screaming on the ground.”

The description of leaving a child '*screaming*' with pain '*on the ground*' is designed to intensify our sense of the man's lack of compassion.



Find and explain three more quotations or other references in Chapter 1 where Stevenson establishes Hyde's difference.



Answers

- Hyde is described as a **'little man'** who was **'stumping'**, suggesting his walk is stiff and angry.
- Hyde's response to the crowd's anger is **'sneering coolness'**, suggesting contempt and detachment.
- Hyde created a **'desire to kill him'** in even the most level-headed people (the doctor).
- Hyde's appearance has **'something wrong...displeasing...downright detestable...deformed'**. The alliterative 'd' illustrates Enfield's disgust.



Hyde's calm trampling of a child would be considered shocking and unacceptable by both contemporary and Victorian readers – he is presented as being different from the very start. His name is not revealed until almost the end of the chapter, increasing his mysteriousness.

Think!**Does Stevenson structure the novel effectively?**

This is where the central conflict is at its height.

Climax

Lanyon's narrative reveals the transformation.

Poole and Utterson find Hyde's body.

Jekyll retreats from society.

Lanyon dies.

Hyde disappears. Jekyll becomes more sociable.

Murder of Carew

Exposition

Introduction to the mystery of Jekyll's will and the mysterious Mr Hyde.

Rising action**Resolution**

We are shown the events from Jekyll's viewpoint.



Chapter 9, 'Dr Lanyon's Narrative', provides the climax of the novel. Although some elements of the mystery are solved, what information is still missing at this point of the novel?

1. Who is described as *'pale and dwarfish'*?
2. Which character has a *'rugged countenance that was never lighted by a smile'*?
3. Why did Dr Lanyon and Dr Jekyll stop being friends?
4. How do we learn about Hyde in Chapters 1 and 2?



STRETCHIT!

In Chapters 1 and 2, how does Stevenson suggest that Jekyll might not be what he seems on the surface?