

THE CONTEXT OF JEKYLL AND HYDE



Written
in 1886

To be able to briefly explain:

1. The Victorian Society

Freud's Psychoanalytic theory

Jung's Personality theory

Darwin's Theory of Evolution

‘JEKYLL AND HYDE’

From the novel’s title, the phrase ‘Jekyll and Hyde’ has slipped into common English usage.

But what does it mean? Discuss the following:

- What does the phrase usually refer to? An object, a place or a person?
- What do you understand by the phrase ‘a Jekyll and Hyde’ personality’?
- Can you think of a fictional character from a novel, film or TV show that has a ‘Jekyll and Hyde’ personality?

DR JEKYLL AND MR HYDE

WHAT ARE THE CONNOTATIONS OF EACH WORD?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fqly5kyO2MI>

- https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=HIDE&rlz=1C1GGRV_enGB800GB800&oq=HIDE&aqs=chrome..69i57j69i60l5.359j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8

- DR JEKYLL

- MR HYDE

The names Jekyll and Hyde

The two names seem to have a double meaning. The two *syllables* of Jekyll's name (Je and kyll) perhaps mean 'I kill' (*Je* is the French for *I*). In the last chapter, Jekyll describes how he tried to get rid of (kill) the Hyde in him.

Hyde spelled as 'hide' suggests something hidden from view, or the rough skin of an animal. Jekyll is in some way trying to kill the hidden Hyde and his animal nature.

Hyde, Hyde

[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=CU2DE1BQLGS](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CU2DE1BQLGS)

Someone is spending my money for me
The money I earn I never see
In all things I do he interferes
All I know is trouble as soon as he appears

Mister Hyde, Mister Hyde, Mister Hyde, Mister Hyde, Hyde

When I drink my potion my character changes
My whole mind and body rearranges
This strange transformation takes place in me
Instead of myself everybody can see

Mister Hyde, Mister Hyde, Mister Hyde, Mister Hyde, Hyde

Whenever you're with me make sure it's still me
I've got to the stage I can't tell which I'll be
The loveable fellow who'll buy you a drink
Then when he's drunk his he'll change in a wink into

Hyde, Mister Hyde, Mister Hyde, Mister Hyde, Hyde



A LITTLE BIT ABOUT CONTEXT

- Why might it be important to understand what was going on during the time period this novel was written?
- How might it impact our understanding of the characters, plot and language?

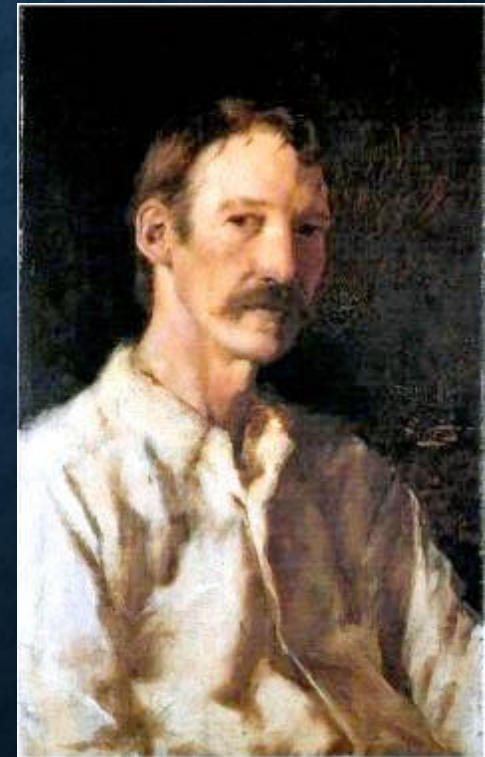
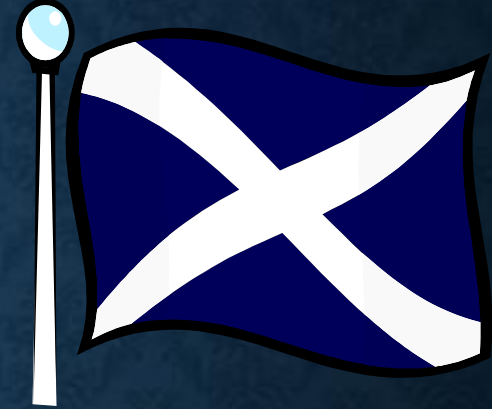
WHO IS ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON?

Robert Louis Balfour Stevenson (13 November 1850 - 3 December 1894) was a Scottish novelist, poet, essayist, and travel writer of the Victorian era. His most famous works are *Treasure Island*, *Kidnapped*, and *the Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*.

Stevenson was a very poorly child who read a great deal about travel and adventure. A combination of his love of adventure and ill health led him to spend many years as a writer travelling the world in search of a climate that was healthier than Britain's.

Stevenson was influenced by the work of Edgar Allan Poe and Charles Dickens and wrote in a range of genres including adventure, historical and horror.

If you are regularly ill, you have a lot of what? Are there side effects?



IS THERE A JUXTAPOSITION HERE?

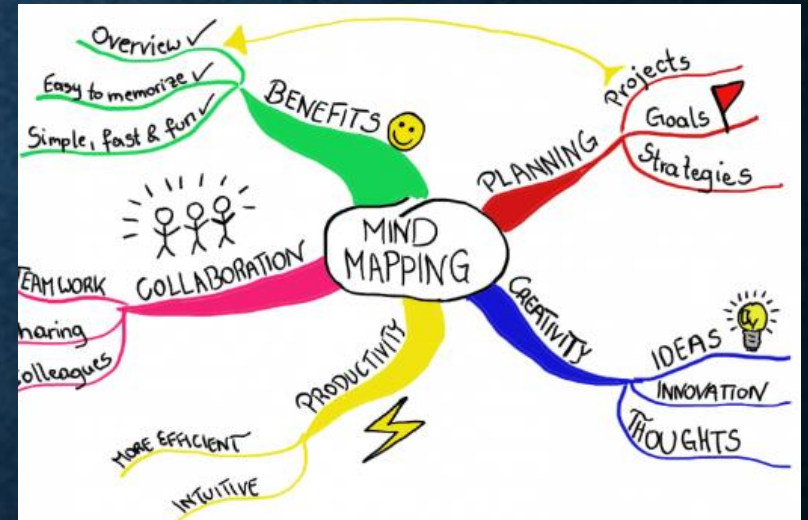
His family included engineers, scientists, a professor of philosophy, and a religious minister.

VICTORIAN BRITAIN (1837-1901)

- What do you know already?

Reputation
Upper-class
Lower-class

Could these words
help?



Be prepared to write context notes – this could be a brainstorm map or bullet points... keep up!

VICTORIAN LONDON

- Victorian London wasn't all gentlemen in top hats and tails. Whilst the middle and upper-classes lived in richly-furnished houses, this wasn't true of everyone.
- The Industrial Revolution meant that many working-class people migrated to large cities to live and work.
- Housing had to be built rapidly, resulting in poor quality housing and slums in an area known as Soho.
- The streets in the slums were narrow and poorly lit. Victorian London was known for its smoke, caused by burning coal on a large scale.

VICTORIAN GENTLEMEN

- The 'gentleman' was an important figure in Victorian society.
- A man's social class was one part of being a gentleman – gentlemen were from the upper-classes of Victorian society.
- Gentlemen were expected to have strong morals and be kind, particularly towards poorer people. But plenty of people saw this as a less important part of being a gentleman.

THE REPUTATION OBSESSION

- Gentlemen were determined to maintain their reputations – without a good reputation, a man couldn't be considered a gentleman at all.
- Gentlemen were expected to keep their emotions under strict control. This forced them to hide their desires for things like alcohol, gambling and sex.
- Many gentlemen were publicly snobbish about disreputable places, like public houses and brothels, whilst visiting them secretly at night.
- They were prepared to pay large sums of money to keep such activities private, which makes them vulnerable to blackmail.

DISRESPECTABLE WORKING-CLASS

- There were some parts of London where most respectable men wouldn't want to be seen, such as the working-class slums. They also wouldn't want to be seen visiting brothels or public houses.
- The two sides of the city – upper-class and working-class – did overlap. Some gentlemen would deliberately travel to the 'dismal' areas of London (where there was less chance of being recognised) to satisfy the desires they hid in public.

WOMEN IN VICTORIAN BRITAIN

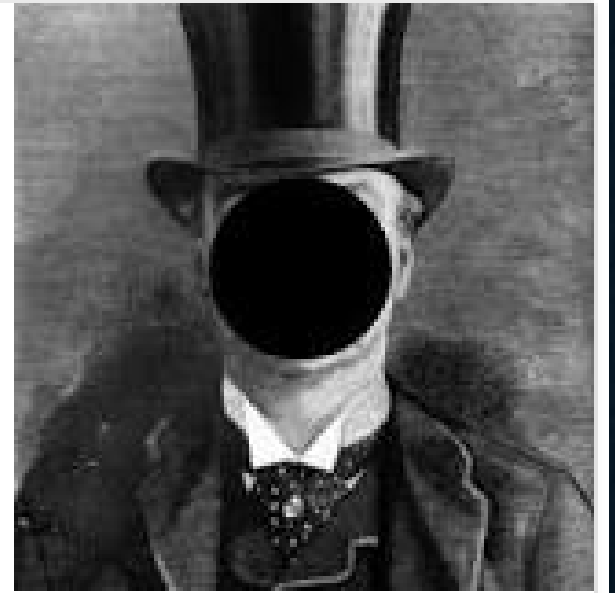
- During the era symbolised by the reign of British monarch Queen Victoria, women did not have the right to vote, sue, or own property.
- At the same time, women participated in the paid workforce in increasing numbers following the Industrial Revolution.
- Feminist ideas spread among the educated middle classes, discriminatory laws were repealed, and the women's suffrage movement gained momentum in the last years of the Victorian era.

NATURE VERSUS THE SUPERNATURAL

- In the Victorian era there is emerging the idea that humanity itself is in constant conflict.
- On the one hand, people lead calm, rational, everyday lives, but on the other hand, a darker side of humanity exists where sexual fantasies, nightmares, violence and murder dwell. It was the rational versus the irrational; nature versus the *supernatural*; good against evil.
- This duality of human nature is the main theme of the novel.
- The infamous *Jack the Ripper* murders occurred in London in the 1880s which seemed to reinforce the Jekyll and Hyde duality of human nature, especially as the evidence suggested that the murderer was an educated and 'respectable' man.

From August 7 to September 10 in 1888, "**Jack the Ripper**" terrorized the Whitechapel district in London's East End. He killed at least five prostitutes and mutilated their bodies in an unusual manner, indicating

What could it indicate?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qHX49hLYOPs>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xvafejPDP7k>

RELIGION VERSUS SCIENCE IN THE 19TH CENTURY

- Like many writers of the late 19th Century, Stevenson was greatly influenced by Charles Darwin's *The Origin of Species* published in 1859. This groundbreaking book introduced the **Theory of Evolution** in which Darwin put forward the theory that all life has evolved over millions of years. The book was (and still is) very controversial and many saw it as an attack on religion.
- This was a time when science and religion were beginning to appear very much at odds with each other and many people felt they had to choose between the two.
- There was also a concern amongst religious people that science was becoming dangerous and was interfering in matters which only God had control over

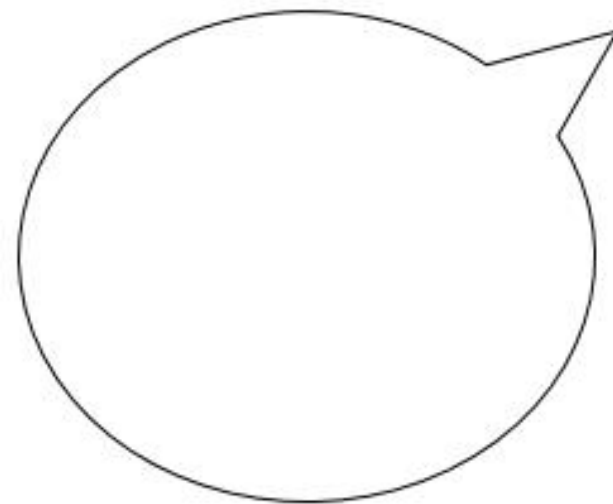
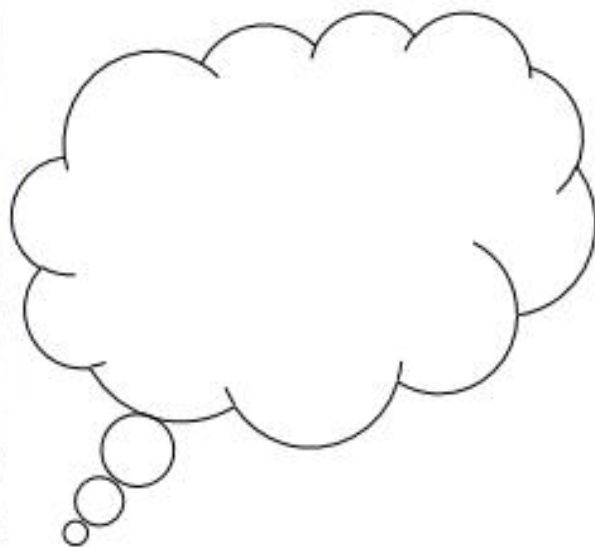
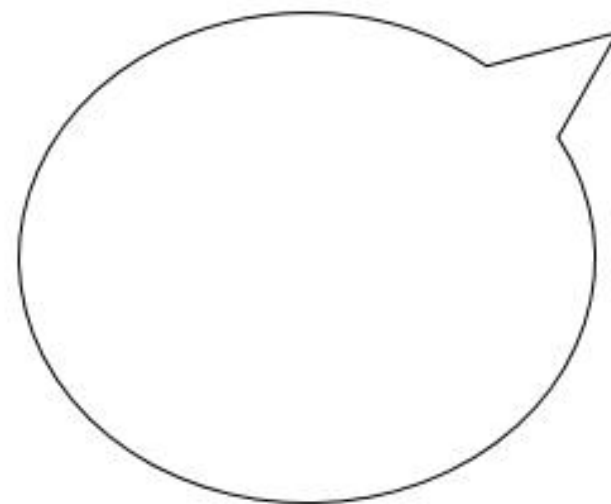
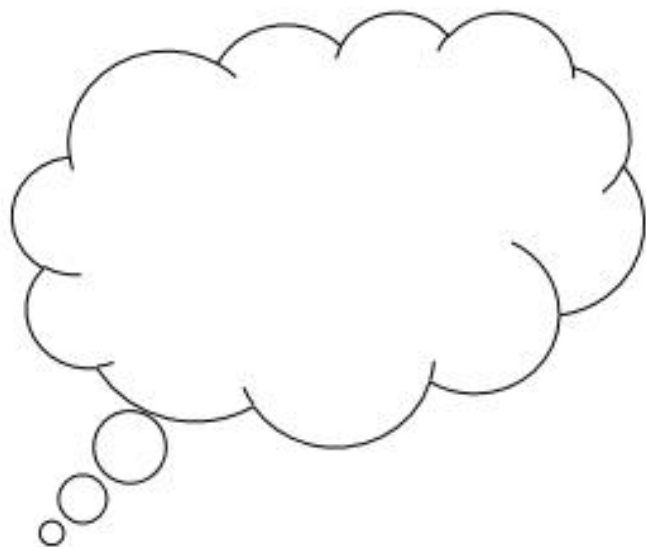
COMPLETE YOUR SHEETS

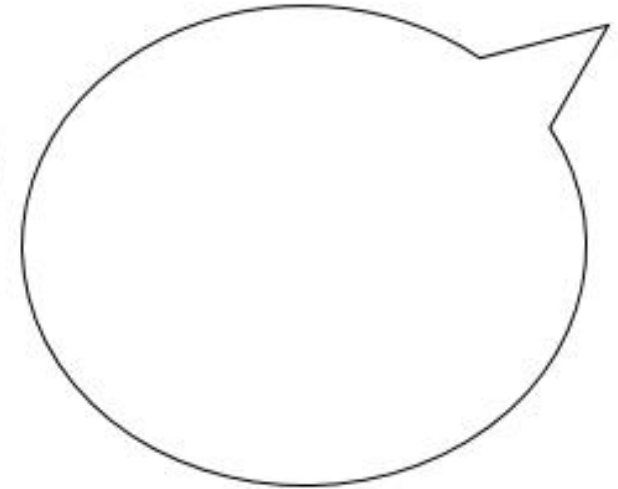
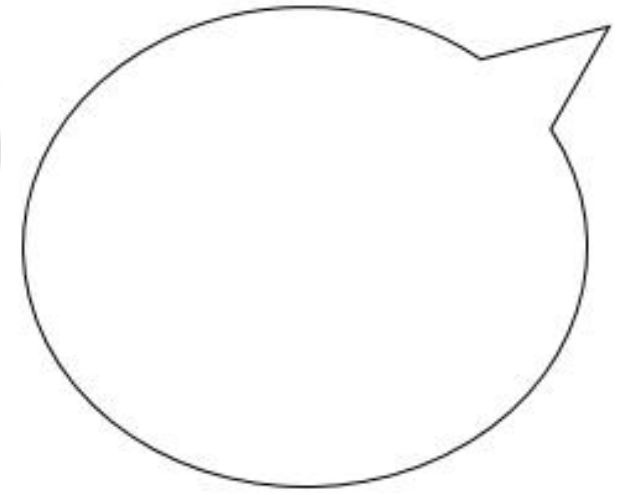
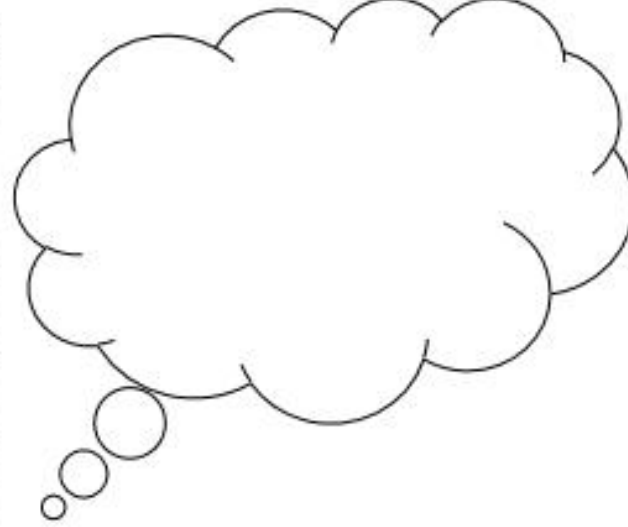
- By encouraging yourself to empathise with the people in the photographs you are enhancing your AO2 skills – identifying the EFFECT on the reader...

What is happening?

Imagine you are one of the people (or objects) – what are you thinking?

What question would you ask about this image?





Having looked at these images, what overall impression do you have of Victorian London?

SIGMUND FREUD (1856)

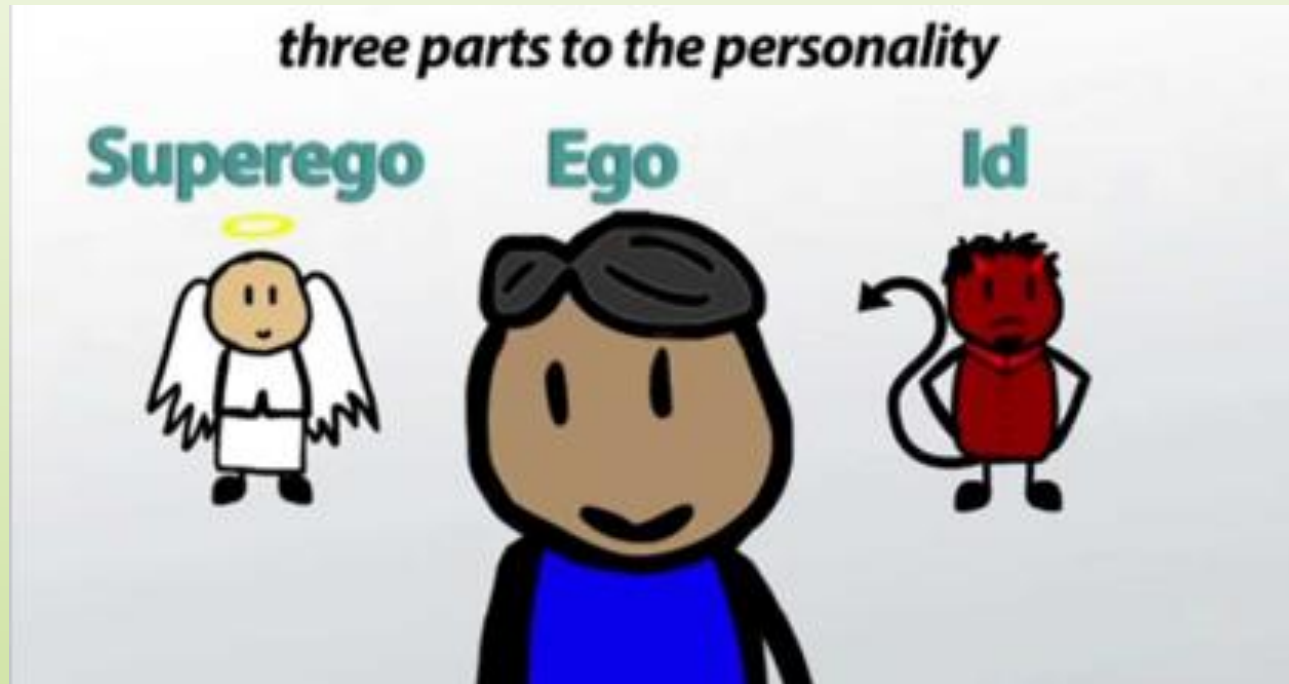
Novel
written
in 1886

- First laid out his 'Psychoanalytic Theory of Personality' in 1856



STICK IN YOUR IMAGE and finish the sentence: I think this theory could be about...

PSYCHOANALYTIC THEORY OF PERSONALITY



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7vFf5CS27-Y>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3GeYXKFRzW0>

Freud

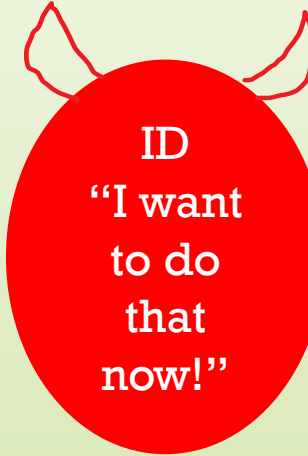
SIMPLIFIED...



SUPEREGO
“It’s not
right to do
that.”

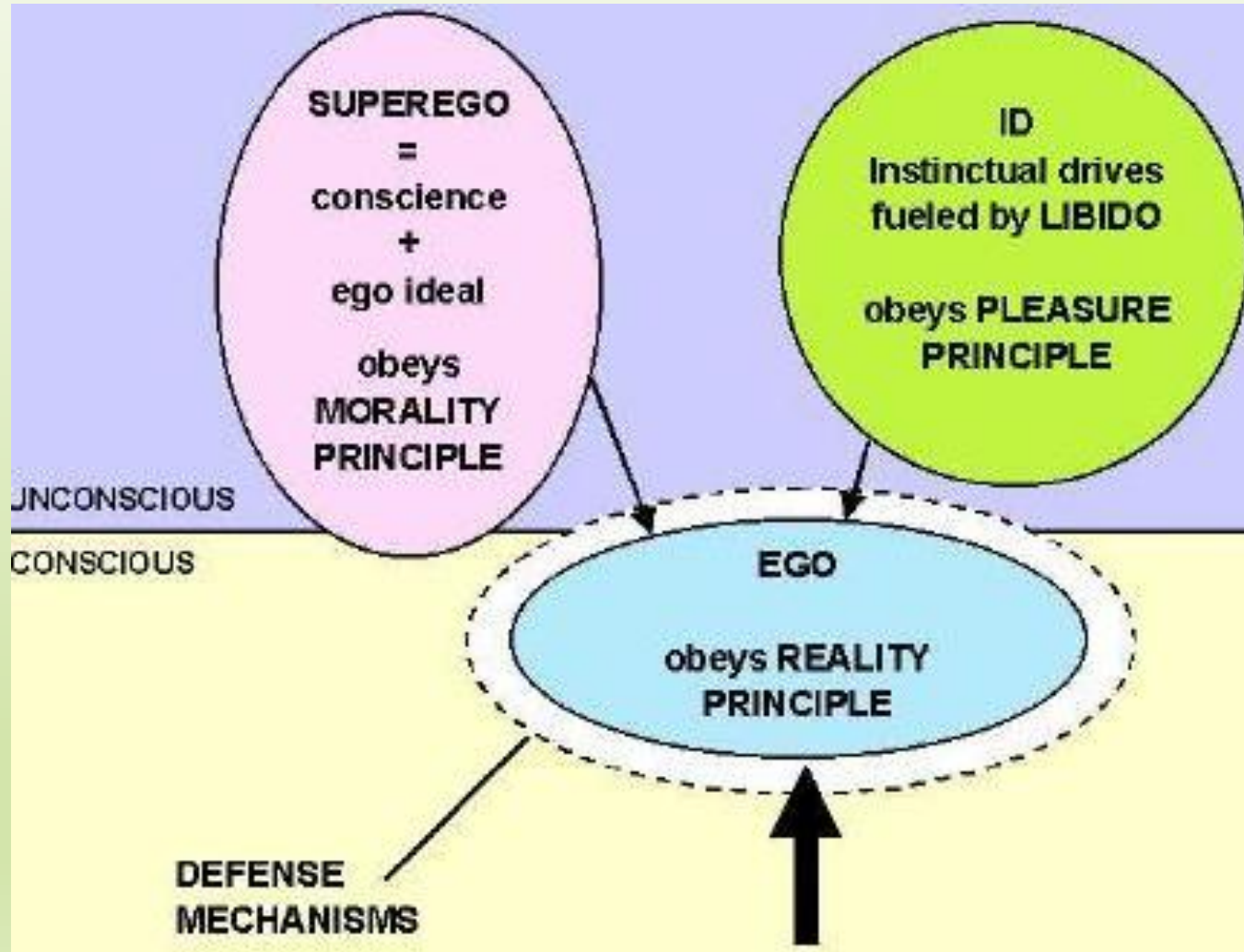


EGO
“Maybe we
can
compromise.”



ID
“I want
to do
that
now!”

- ONLY THE EGO IS CONSCIOUS (CAN BE CONTROLLED/THOUGHT ABOUT)



ID: MEETING BASIC NEEDS

The id is the most basic part of the personality, and wants instant gratification for our wants and needs. If these needs or wants are not met, a person becomes tense or anxious.

- Sally was thirsty. Rather than waiting for the server to refill her glass of water, she reached across the table and drank from Mr. Smith's water glass, much to his surprise.
- A hungry baby cried until he was fed.
- A toddler who wanted another helping of dessert whined incessantly until she was given another serving.
- Michael saw a \$5 bill fall out of Nick's backpack as he pulled his books out of his locker. As Nick walked away, Michael bent over, picked up the money, and slipped it into his pocket, glancing around to make sure no one was looking.
- On Black Friday, customers were so obsessed with getting a good deal that they shoved others out of their way and trampled them, not thinking twice about hurting people if it meant they could get what they wanted.
- In line at the salad bar, Amy was so hungry that she shoved a handful of croutons in her mouth as she waited for the line to move.
- Bart was stuck in traffic. He just wanted his vehicle to move! Enraged at the situation, Bart pulled his car onto the shoulder and sped forward, not caring that he was clipping people's side mirrors as he tried to get ahead of the cars in front of him.

<http://examples.yourdictionary.com/examples-of-id-ego-and-superego.html>

EGO: DEALING WITH REALITY

The ego deals with reality, trying to meet the desires of the id in a way that is socially acceptable in the world. This may mean delaying gratification, and helping to get rid of the tension the id feels if a desire is not met right away. The ego recognizes that other people have needs and wants too, and that being selfish is not always good for us in the long run.

- Sally was thirsty. However, she knew that her server would be back soon to refill her water glass, so she waited until then to get a drink, even though she really just wanted to drink from Mr. Smith's glass.
- Even though Michael needed money, he decided not to steal the money from the cash register because he didn't want to get in trouble.
- In line at the salad bar, Amy really wanted to shove a handful of croutons into her mouth. However, since her boss was there, she decided to wait another minute or two until she sat down to eat.
- Mary really wanted to borrow her mom's necklace, but knew her mom would be angry if she took it without asking, so she asked her mom if she could wear it.
- Hillary was so sweaty after her workout that she wanted to change her clothes right there by the car. However, she knew the other people around her would not approve, so she waited until she was in the restroom to change.
- Katie's mom had given her \$25 to purchase groceries for dinner that night. At the mall, Katie saw shoes that she really wanted, and was tempted to use the money from her mom to make the purchase. However, if she spent the money on shoes, she wouldn't have enough to buy the groceries, so she decided she better not buy the shoes.
- Tim really wanted to slug Mark for what he had just said. However, Tim knew if he hit Mark, he would be kicked off the baseball team, and since he loved baseball, he unclenched his fists and walked away.

SUPEREGO: ADDING MORALS

The superego develops last, and is based on morals and judgments about right and wrong. Even though the superego and the ego may reach the same decision about something, the superego's reason for that decision is more based on moral values, while the ego's decision is based more on what others will think or what the consequences of an action could be.

- Sarah knew that she could steal the supplies from work and no one would know about it. However, she knew that stealing was wrong, so she decided not to take anything even though she would probably never get caught.
- Maggie couldn't remember the answer to test question #12, even though she had studied. Nate was the smartest kid in the class, and from where Maggie sat, she could see his answers if she turned her head slightly. When Mrs. Archer turned her back, Maggie almost cheated, but her conscience stopped her because she knew it was wrong. Instead, Maggie took a guess at the answer and then turned in her paper.
- While away on business, Tom had many opportunities to be unfaithful to his wife. However, he knew the damage such behavior would have on his family, so made the decision to avoid the women who had expressed interest in him.
- When Michael saw the \$5 bill lying on the floor with no one around it, he turned it into the school office in case anyone came looking for it. He wouldn't want to lose \$5, and hoped that whoever had lost it would ask about it in the office.
- The cashier only charged the couple for one meal even though they had eaten two. They could have gotten away with only paying for one, but they pointed out the cashier's mistake and offered to pay for both meals. They wanted to be honest and they knew that the restaurant owner and employees needed to make a living.
- On the playground, two kids were making fun of Joseph because he wore glasses. John was tempted to join in so that he could make himself look good, but when he thought about how bad Joseph must already feel, he knew that he couldn't.
- Will had worked hard all season to break the school record in cross-country. During his last race he had the opportunity to cut a corner and therefore lower his time, because no officials were watching that part of the course. As much as he wanted to break the school record, Will knew he wouldn't feel good about himself if he cheated, so he stuck to the course and ran as fast as he could.

FREUD'S PSYCHOANALYTIC THEORY OF PERSONALITY

- As this is **CONTEXT** – you need to say that Stevenson was **INFLUENCED** by this theory.
- **CONCEPTUALISED**: ‘to form an idea about something’.
- Stevenson conceptualises Freud’s psychoanalytic of theory of personality through the character Hyde. Hyde represents the ID and....

Which can
you relate to
the most?

Personality Types

CARL JUNG

Extrovert

vs

Introvert

- The extrovert, by contrast, is characterized by outgoingness, responsiveness to other persons, activity, aggressiveness, and the ability to make quick decisions.
- Act impulsively.

- Shy, contemplative, and reserved and tends to have difficulty adjusting to social situations. Excessive daydreaming and introspection, careful balancing of considerations before reaching decisions, and withdrawal under stress are also typical of the introverted personality.

1. **Extroverted attitude:** a standpoint characterized by an outward flowing of personal energy (*libido*)—an interest in events, in people and things, a relationship with them, and a dependence on them. The extrovert is usually ...

- a. motivated by outside factors and greatly influenced by the environment,
- b. sociable and confident in unfamiliar surroundings, less cautious, less fearful, and
- c. likes organizations, parties, and tends to be optimistic and enthusiastic.
- d. **Weaknesses** of the extroverted attitude include:
 - (1) a dependence on making a good impression,
 - (2) easily making and breaking relationships,
 - (3) regarding reflection as being morbid and avoiding being alone,
 - (4) lacking self-criticism, and
 - (5) accepting the morals and conventions of the day--conventional.

[Introvert vs extravert:](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sfjN15zsPyQ)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sfjN15zsPyQ>

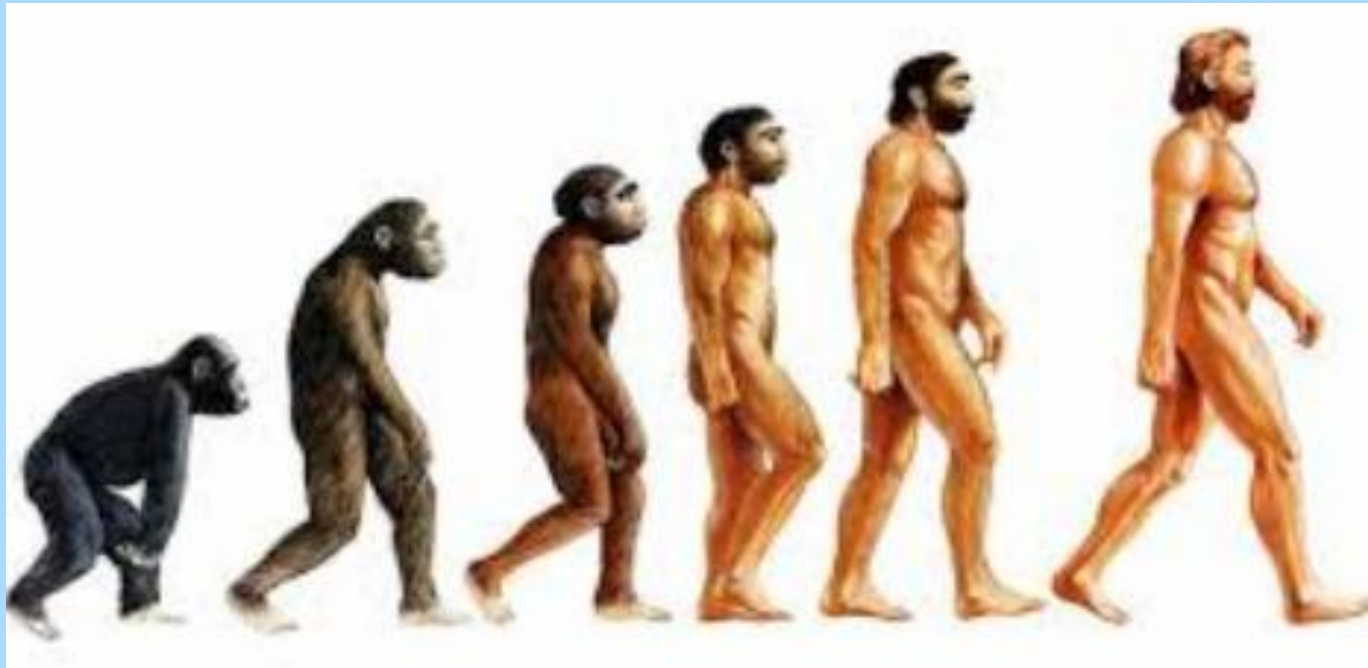
2. **Introverted Attitude:** characterized by an inward flowing of personal energy—a withdrawal concentrating on subjective factors. The introvert is usually ...

- a. . happy alone with a rich imagination, and
- b. prefers reflection to activity.
- c. **Weakness** of the introverted attitude includes ...
 - (1) a lack confidence in relation to people and things and
 - (2) a tendency to be unsociable, shy, and hesitant.

https://www.buzzfeed.com/alexfinnis/are-you-more-of-an-introvert-or-an-extrovert?utm_term=.srOk9MwrW#.nfZ82EPZx

Charles Darwin – The Origin of Species: The Theory of Evolution

1859

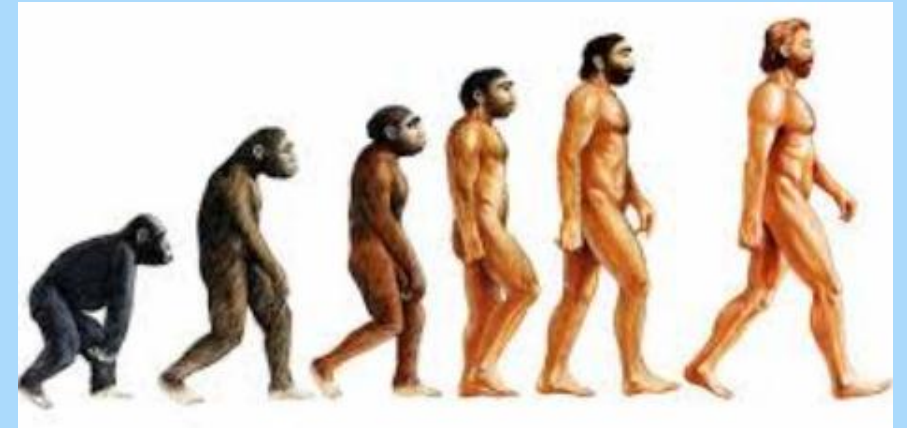


What does this image denote and connote?

Darwin – The Origin of Species: 1859 The Theory of Evolution

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pQp2lFcDEbw>

1. Evolution occurs –
organisms change over
time



2. Evolution occurs by
natural selection
(survival of the fittest?)

It's commonly believed that the **dodo went extinct** because Dutch sailors ate the beast to **extinction** after finding that the bird was incredibly easy to catch due to the fact it **had** no fear of humans, (why it didn't fear the creature many times its size is a mystery for another day). 28 Jun 2013



Why the Dodo Went Extinct - Today I Found Out
www.todayifoundout.com/index.php/2013/06/why-the-dodo-went-extinct/

BUT WAIT, WHY ARE THERE STILL APES?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wh0F4FBLJRE>

<http://www.abc.net.au/science/articles/2011/10/04/3331957.htm>

SO REMEMBER...

Stevenson was influenced by the publishing of Darwin's theory at the time (1859).

It divided society: Science VS religion.

High level contextual reference example

In Robert Louis Stevenson's *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, as well as in Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species* of Natural Selection, man's dual nature is illustrated in terms of evolution and morality. In this essay I will argue that Stevenson's description of both the interior and exterior struggles of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde echo Darwin's theories of evolution and natural selection. Through close readings, comparisons, and the juxtaposition of the novel and theoretical genre, I will explain how Stevenson's physical description of Edward Hyde can be divided into three streams (the primitive being, the animalistic, and the childlike).

<https://www.bl.uk/romantics-and-victorians/articles/duality-in-robert-louis-stevensons-strange-case-of-dr-jekyll-and-mr-hyde> Interesting Read

<https://prezi.com/kogvoucp4mjx/theory-in-context-jekyll-and-hyde/>