

Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde – Utterson's Dream

Analysing a graphic novel



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In this extract from chapter one, Mr Utterson has a troubled night after hearing Mr Enfield’s tale about his encounter with Mr Hyde. In this activity, you will analyse how various aspects of the page help to convey Utterson’s “toiling mind”.

Page Layout

- How do the panels establish situation and then develop a narrative?
- Why is the design of the four central panels effective?
- What is the effect of the bleed at the bottom of the page?

Art Style

How do the following affect the impact of the page?

- Choice of image
- Colour
- Light and shade
- Level of detail – realistic? Impressionistic?

Text

- Why are captions used, rather than speech balloons?
- What does the text add to our understanding of the images?
- Which words and phrases do you find most effective? Can you comment on the use of metaphor?

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- Which words are lettered in bold, and why?

Overall, how effectively do you feel Grant & Kennedy have brought the scene to life and created the anxious, troubled mood of Utterson's dream?