

The Story of the Door: *Worksheet 1*

Adapted extracts from Chapter One of *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*

Extract A: *Mr Enfield tells the narrator about seeing a strange incident in London*

“I was coming home about three o'clock of a black winter morning. My way lay through a part of town where there was literally nothing to be seen but lamps. Street after street and all the folks asleep. Street after street, all lighted up and all as empty as a church... I began to long for the sight of a policeman.

All at once, I saw two figures, walking in opposite directions. One was a little man, and the other a girl of maybe eight or ten. She was running as hard and the two ran into one another at the corner.

And then came the horrible part. For the man trampled calmly over the child's body and left her screaming on the ground. It was hellish to see.

I took to my heels, collared my gentleman, and brought him back to where there was already quite a group about the screaming child. He was perfectly cool and made no resistance. But gave me one look, so ugly...

Quick Check

1. Enfield was coming home late at night.
2. It was completely dark.
3. A policeman was walking in the other direction.
4. There is a collision between a man and a child

Extract B: *A doctor 'of no particular age and colour, with a strong Edinburgh accent arrives on the scene. He reassures the child's family that she is 'more frightened' than hurt. Mr Enfield notices the doctor's hatred and contempt for 'my prisoner'.*

We told the man we would make such a scandal out of this ... make his name stink from one end of London to the other....

The man replied with a **kind of black sneering coolness**. 'If you choose to make capital out of this accident,' said he, 'I am naturally helpless. No gentleman but wishes to avoid a scene,' says he. 'Name your figure.'

He was frightened too, I could see that—but defiant really like Satan.

Quick Check

1. Describe what happens in **Extract B**
2. What do you understand by the following phrases
 - a) 'make his name stink'
 - b) "sneering coolness"
 - c) 'avoid a scene'