



lingoda

The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

READING

LEVEL
Advanced

NUMBER
C1_2047R_EN

LANGUAGE
English

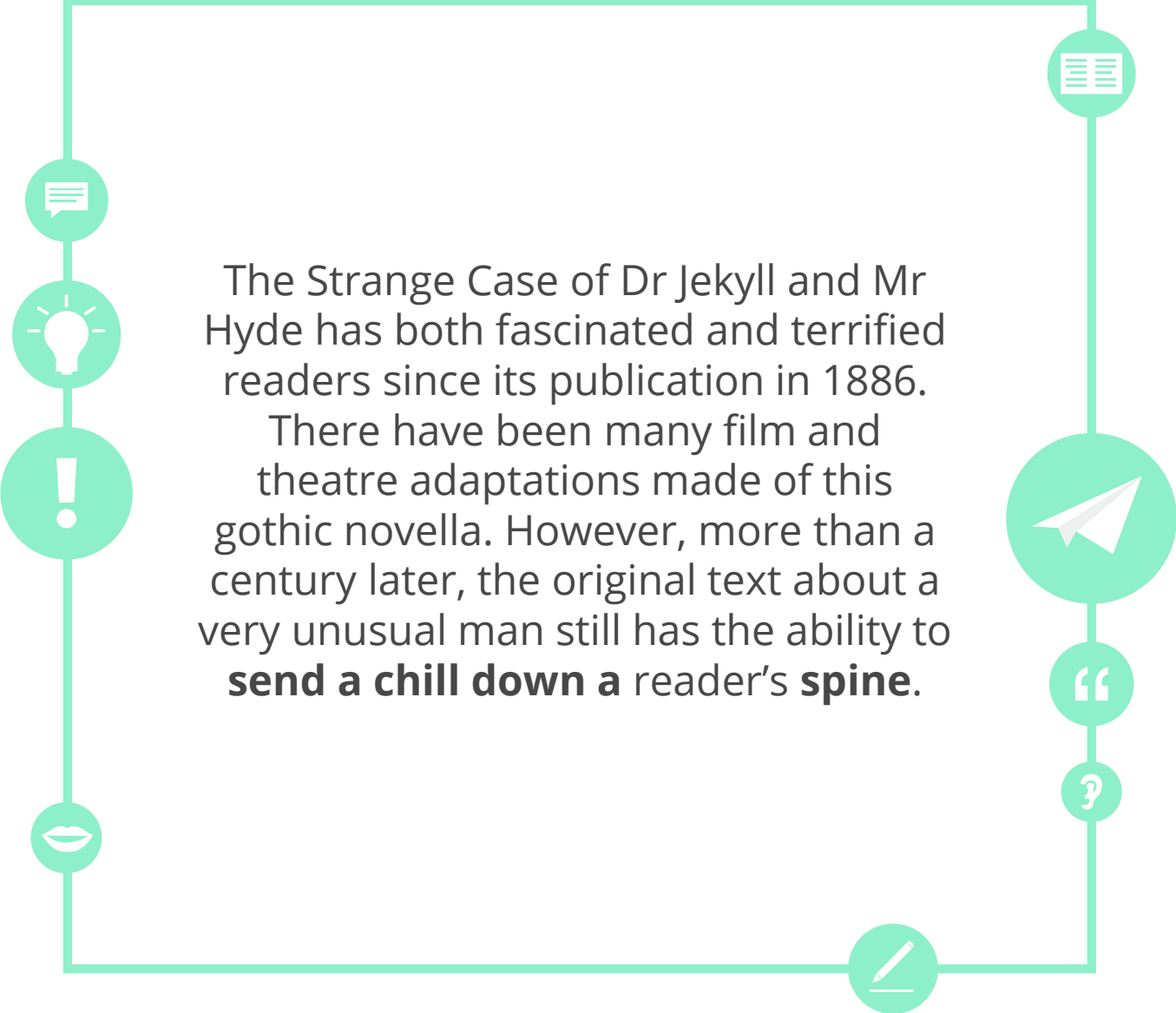




Goals

- Can read and understand a literary excerpt from Robert Louis Stevenson's 'The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde'.
- Can explain the text's cultural significance and analyse the character development and personalities within the story.





The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde has both fascinated and terrified readers since its publication in 1886. There have been many film and theatre adaptations made of this gothic novella. However, more than a century later, the original text about a very unusual man still has the ability to **send a chill down a** reader's **spine**.



The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

What do you know already about
The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and
Mr Hyde?

Tell your teacher what you have
already heard about the story.
If you don't know anything about
the story, ask your teacher
questions to find out what they
know.



Describing people

In *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* there are a lot of descriptions of different characters. Think of three people you know and describe them in detail to your teacher. Mention their appearance, their personality and character, and how they behave in different situations.



appearance

character

personality

behaviour



The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

In the month of October, 18—, London was **startled** by a crime of singular ferocity and rendered all the more notable by the high position of the victim. The details were few and startling. A maid servant living alone in a house not far from the river, had gone upstairs to bed about eleven. Although a fog rolled over the city in the small hours, the early part of the night was cloudless, and the lane, which the maid's window overlooked, was brilliantly lit by the full moon.

It seems she was romantically given, for she sat down upon her box, which stood immediately under the window, and fell into a dream of **musings**. Never (she used to say, with streaming tears, when she narrated that experience), never had she felt more at peace with all men or thought more kindly of the world. And as she so sat she became aware of an aged and beautiful gentleman with white hair, drawing near along the lane; and advancing to meet him, another and very small gentleman, to whom at first she paid less attention.



The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

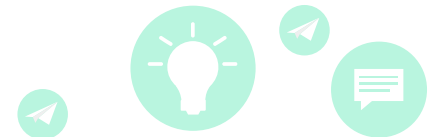
When they had come within speech (which was just under the maid's eyes) the older man bowed and accosted the other with a very pretty manner of politeness. It did not seem as if the subject of his address were of great importance; indeed, from his pointing, it sometimes appeared as if he were only inquiring his way; but the moon shone on his face as he spoke, and the girl was pleased to watch it, it seemed to breathe such an innocent and old-world kindness of disposition, yet with something high too, as of a well-founded self-content.



The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

Presently her eye wandered to the other, and she was surprised to recognise in him a certain Mr. Hyde, who had once visited her master and for whom she had conceived a dislike.

He had in his hand a heavy **cane**, with which he was **trifling**; but he answered never a word, and seemed to listen with an ill-contained impatience. And then all of a sudden he broke out in a great flame of anger, stamping with his foot, **brandishing** the cane, and carrying on (as the maid described it) like a madman. The old gentleman took a step back, with the air of one very much surprised and **a trifle** hurt; and at that Mr. Hyde broke out of all bounds and clubbed him to the earth. And next moment, with ape-like fury, he was trampling his victim under foot and hailing down a storm of blows, under which the bones were audibly shattered and the body jumped upon the roadway. At the horror of these sights and sounds, the maid fainted.





The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

It was two o'clock when she came to herself and called for the police. The murderer was gone long ago; but there lay his victim in the middle of the lane, incredibly **mangled**. The stick with which the deed had been done, although it was of some rare and very tough and heavy wood, had broken in the middle under the stress of this insensate cruelty; and one splintered half had rolled in the neighbouring **gutter**—the other, without doubt, had been carried away by the murderer. A purse and a gold watch were found upon the victim: but no cards or papers, except a sealed and stamped envelope, which he had been probably carrying to the post, and which bore the name and address of Mr. Utterson.





Vocabulary review

Look below at the words and phrases from the text. Check their meaning with your teacher.





Witness statement

Imagine you are the maid in the text being interviewed by the police. Describe in detail what you saw happening in your own words. Give as much information as you can.





Polar opposites

Think about the two people that the maid describes seeing. How are they different? Would you describe them as polar opposites? Now think about yourself. What would your polar opposite be like? Describe him or her to your teacher.



The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

This was brought to the lawyer the next morning, before he was out of bed; and he had no sooner seen it, and been told the circumstances, than he shot out a solemn lip. "I shall say nothing till I have seen the body," said he; "this may be very serious. Have the kindness to wait while I dress." And with the same grave countenance he hurried through his breakfast and drove to the police station, whither the body had been carried. As soon as he came into the cell, he nodded.

"Yes," said he, "I recognise him. I am sorry to say that this is Sir Danvers Carew."

"Good God, sir," exclaimed the officer, "is it possible?" And the next moment his eye lighted up with professional ambition. "This will make a deal of noise," he said. "And perhaps you can help us to the man." And he briefly narrated what the maid had seen, and showed the broken stick.



The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

Mr. Utterson had already **quailed** at the name of Hyde; but when the stick was laid before him, he could doubt no longer; broken and **battered** as it was, he recognised it for one that he had himself presented many years before to Henry Jekyll.

"Is this Mr. Hyde a person of small stature?" he inquired.

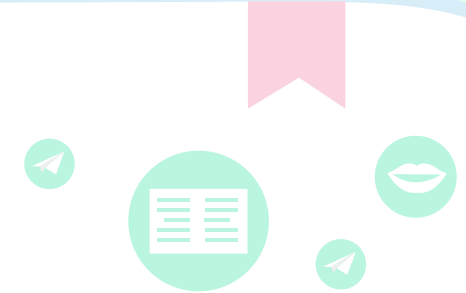
"Particularly small and particularly wicked-looking, is what the maid calls him," said the officer.

Mr. Utterson reflected; and then, raising his head, "If you will come with me in my cab," he said, "I think I can take you to his house."



The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

It was by this time about nine in the morning, and the first fog of the season. A great chocolate-coloured pall lowered over heaven, but the wind was continually charging and routing these embattled vapours; so that as the cab crawled from street to street, Mr. Utterson beheld a marvellous number of degrees and **hues** of **twilight**; for here it would be dark like the back-end of evening; and there would be a glow of a rich, lurid brown, like the light of some strange conflagration; and here, for a moment, the fog would be quite broken up, and a **haggard** shaft of daylight would glance in between the swirling wreaths.





The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

The **dismal** quarter of Soho seen under these changing glimpses, with its muddy ways, and slatternly passengers, and its lamps, which had never been extinguished or had been kindled afresh to combat this mournful re-invasion of darkness, seemed, in the lawyer's eyes, like a district of some city in a nightmare.

The thoughts of his mind, besides, were of the gloomiest dye; and when he glanced at the companion of his drive, he was conscious of some touch of that terror of the law and the law's officers, which may at times assail the most honest.



The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

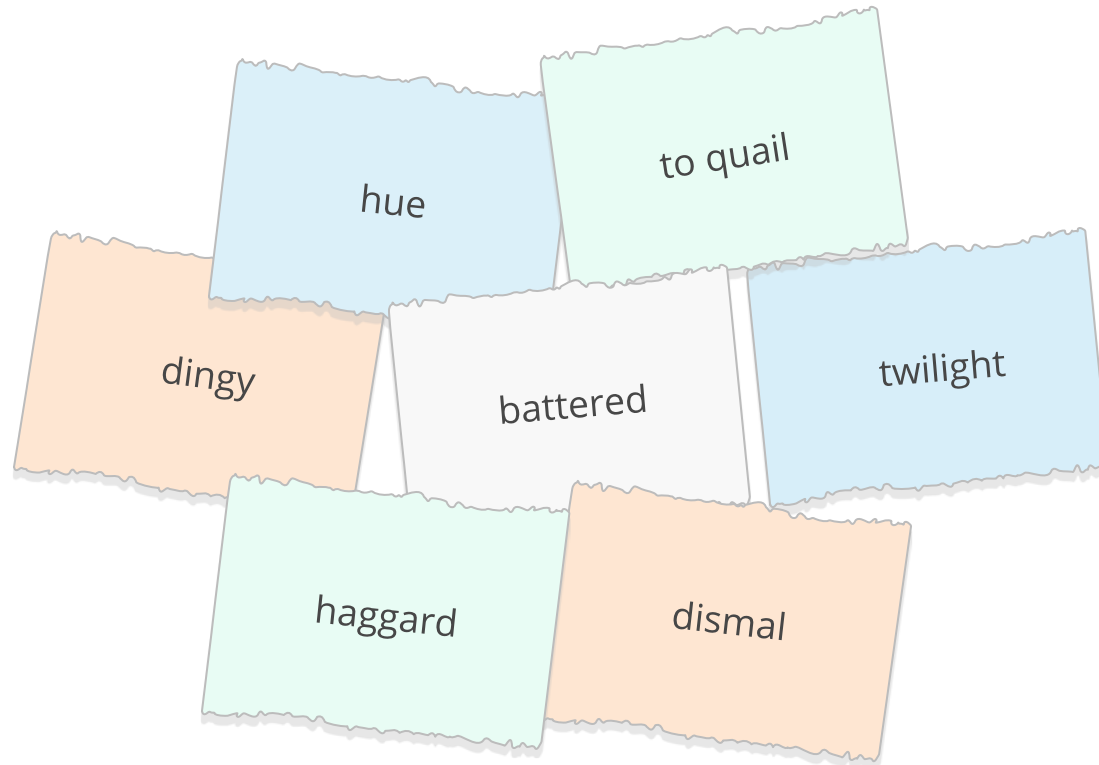
As the cab drew up before the address indicated, the fog lifted a little and showed him a **dingy** street, a gin palace, a low French eating-house, a shop for the retail of penny numbers and twopenny salads, many ragged children huddled in the doorways, and many women of different nationalities passing out, key in hand, to have a morning glass; and the next moment the fog settled down again upon that part, as brown as umber, and cut him off from his blackguardly surroundings. This was the home of Henry Jekyll's favourite; of a man who was heir to a quarter of a million sterling.





Vocabulary review

Look below at the words and phrases from the text. Check their meaning with your teacher.





The city of London

Think about the extract you have just read. How does the writer describe the city of London in the text? Why do you think the writer describes it in this way? Does it seem to reflect the protagonist's mood, how?



city



weather



urban



environment



Be a storyteller

In the extract you have just read the protagonist's grey mood seems to be reflected in the weather. This technique is called pathetic fallacy. Look at the pictures below. Imagine yourself in each situation. Describe how you are feeling, your journey to the event, what you can see out of the window as you travel, and how the weather reflects your mood.



You are feeling happy

You are travelling to your brother's wedding



You are feeling scared

You are travelling to your first day at a new job



The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

An ivory-faced and silvery-haired old woman opened the door. She had an evil face, smoothed by **hypocrisy**; but her manners were excellent. Yes, she said, this was Mr. Hyde's, but he was not at home; he had been in that night very late, but had gone away again in less than an hour; there was nothing strange in that; his habits were very irregular, and he was often absent; for instance, it was nearly two months since she had seen him till yesterday.

"Very well, then, we wish to see his rooms," said the lawyer; and when the woman began to declare it was impossible, "I had better tell you who this person is," he added. "This is Inspector Newcomen of Scotland Yard."



The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

A flash of **odious** joy appeared upon the woman's face. "Ah!" said she, "he is in trouble! What has he done?"

Mr. Utterson and the inspector exchanged **glances**. "He don't seem a very popular character," observed the latter. "And now, my good woman, just let me and this gentleman have a look about us."

In the whole extent of the house, which but for the old woman remained otherwise empty, Mr. Hyde had only used a couple of rooms; but these were furnished with luxury and good taste.



The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

A closet was filled with wine; the plate was of silver, the napery elegant; a good picture hung upon the walls, a gift (as Utterson supposed) from Henry Jekyll, who was much of a connoisseur; and the carpets were of many plies and agreeable in colour. At this moment, however, the rooms bore every mark of having been recently and hurriedly **ransacked**; clothes lay about the floor, with their pockets inside out; lock-fast drawers stood open; and on the hearth there lay a pile of grey ashes, as though many papers had been burned.





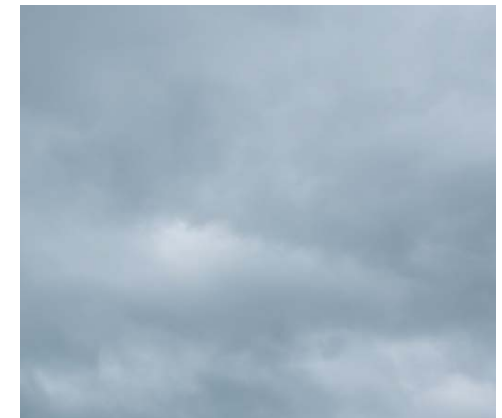
The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

From these embers the inspector disinterred the butt-end of a green cheque-book, which had resisted the action of the fire; the other half of the stick was found behind the door; and as this **clinched** his suspicions, the officer declared himself delighted. A visit to the bank, where several thousand pounds were found to be lying to the murderer's credit, completed his **gratification**.



The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

"You may depend upon it, sir," he told Mr. Utterson: "I have him in my hand. He must have lost his head, or he never would have left the stick or, above all, burned the cheque-book. Why, money's life to the man. We have nothing to do but wait for him at the bank, and get out the handbills."





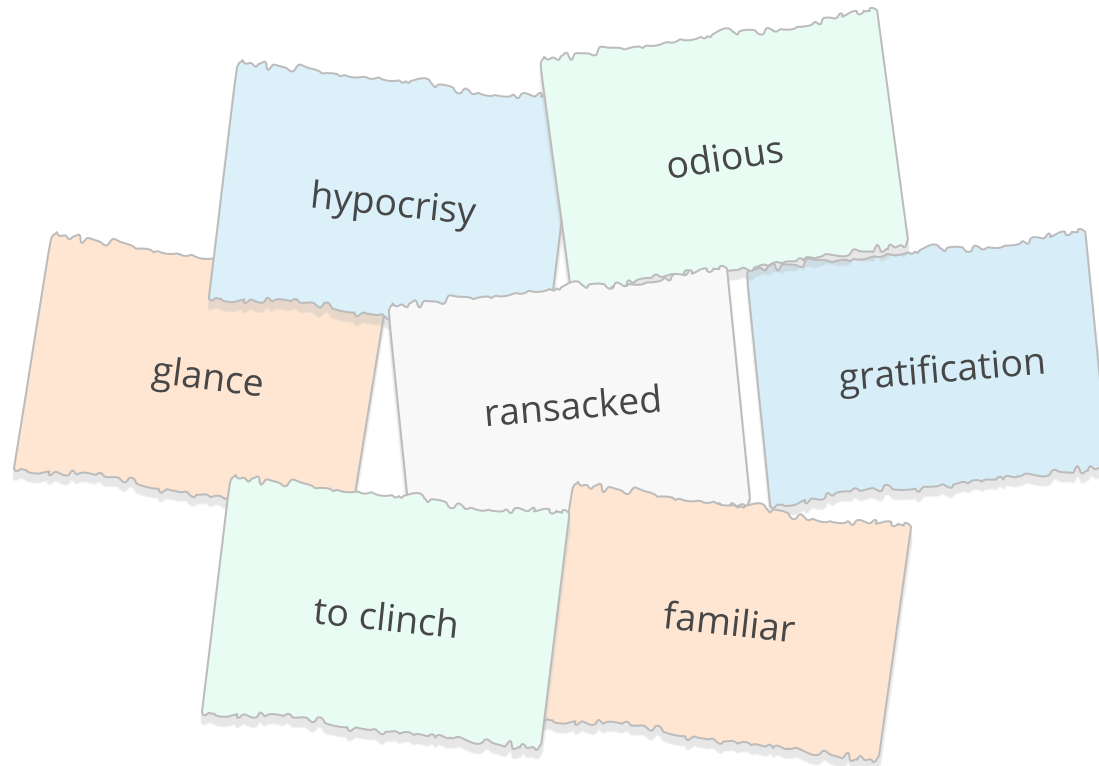
The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

This last, however, was not so easy of accomplishment; for Mr. Hyde had numbered few **familiars**—even the master of the servant-maid had only seen him twice; his family could nowhere be traced; he had never been photographed; and the few who could describe him differed widely, as common observers will. Only on one point, were they agreed; and that was the haunting sense of unexpressed deformity with which the fugitive impressed his beholders.



Vocabulary review

Look below at the words and phrases from the text. Check their meaning with your teacher.





Mr Hyde, an interesting character

Think about the three segments of text you have read. What have you learnt about the character of Mr Hyde? Give as much detail as possible.



Reflect on the lesson

Take a moment to review any new **vocabulary, phrases, language structures** or **grammar points** you have come across for the first time in this lesson.

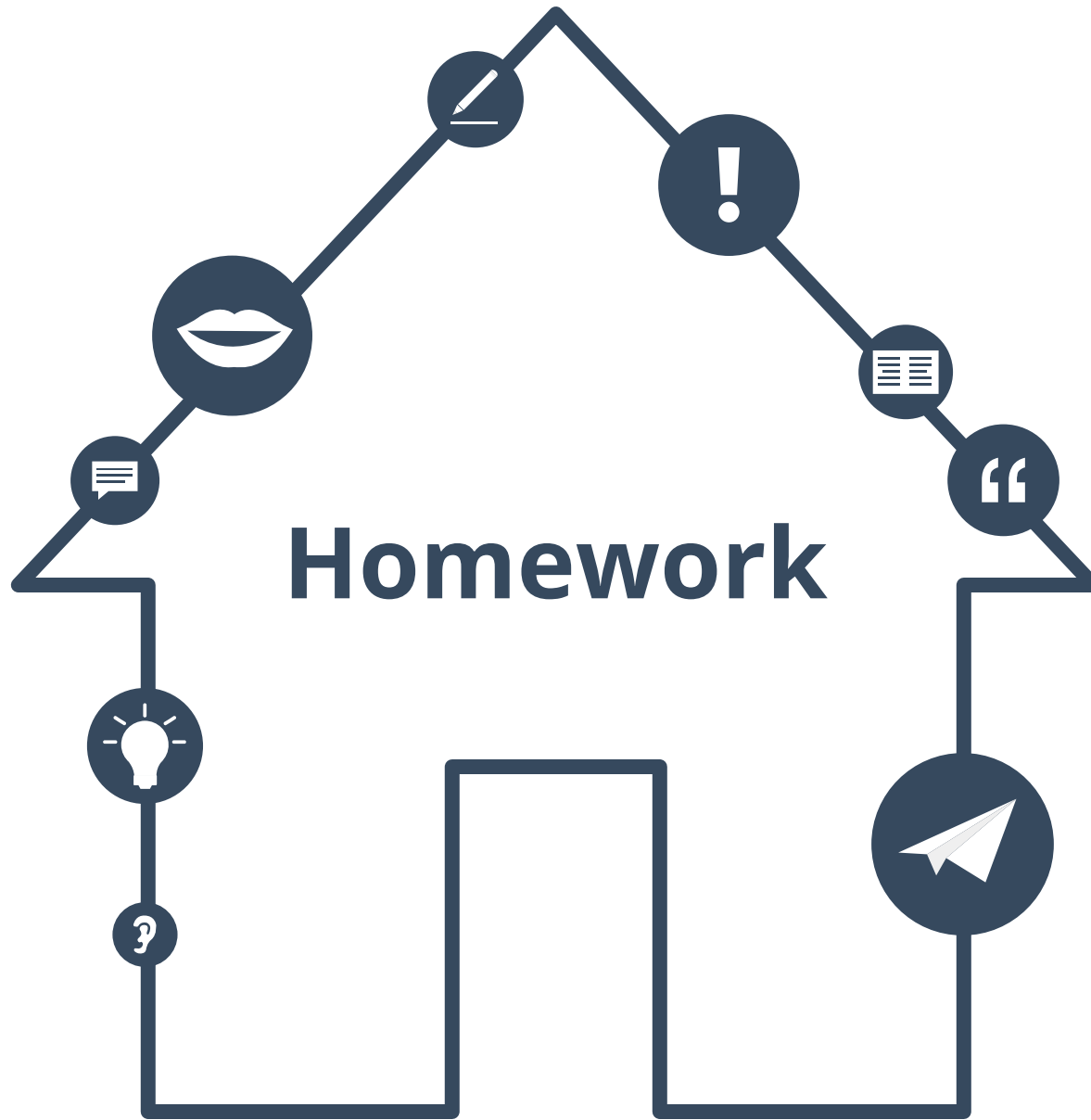
Review them with your teacher one more time to make sure you don't forget!





Answer key

Activity p. 20:
People: haggard, innocent, mangled, ragged
Places: dingy, dismal
Both: mournful, quiet





Homework writing activity

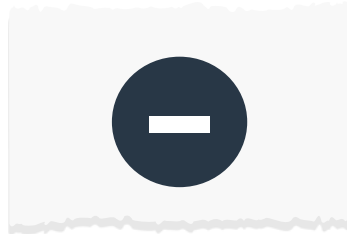
Imagine you are on holiday in a big city. It's lunchtime and you are having something to eat in a café, seated at a table by the window overlooking a busy street. Write a letter to your friend describing in detail what you can see and the interesting people who pass you by.

○	
○	
○	
○	
○	
○	
○	
○	
○	
○	
○	
○	
○	
○	
○	



Homework evaluation activity

How did you find this lesson? Which parts did you find most challenging, which parts were easiest? Give your feedback here.

A vertical rectangular area on the right side of the page, resembling a sheet of lined paper with a spiral binding on the left edge. It contains ten horizontal lines for writing feedback.



About this material



Find out more at
www.lingoda.com

This material is provided by

lingoda

lingoda Who are we?



Why learn English online?



What kinds of English classes do we offer?



Who are our English teachers?



How do our English certificates work?



We also have a language blog!