

Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde: Writing Exercise 1 (English Lit) — Writing to persuade

Read the following passage from Act 1 of the play. Jekyll is talking to his sister Katherine, who has recently taken up photography as a hobby. They have been looking at a photograph Katherine has taken of her children, Lucy and Charles.

KATHERINE ... What do you think?

JEKYLL It's - a very touching composition.

KATHERINE Well, I hope it's more than touching. It was intended to be true.

JEKYLL You think one sees the truth of people in their faces?

KATHERINE Why else look into the mirror?

JEKYLL Well, I'd have thought, to see the opposite. Surely it's where we practise our deceits and our disguises.

- ➡ Do you agree with Katherine, or with Jekyll? Write a piece which persuades your reader of your point of view. Remember to use a range of techniques. You could include:
 - Opinion - present your personal viewpoint as if it is fact
 - Examples - to back up your opinion
 - Emotive language
 - Rhetorical questions
 - Flattery
 - Facts and figures
- ➡ Think about how Katherine and Jekyll's views might be relevant to modern life, as well as their own time.