

YEAR 10 TERM 1: Appearance and reality

Reading List for 'Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde'

Please find below suggestions for novels you might like to read which share common ground with 'Dr Jekyll'. I have also listed some films on a similar theme which you may enjoy! Some of these explore the theme of science going too far; others are from the same time period or in a similar style.

Novels:

'Frankenstein' by Mary Shelley – written by the author when she was only eighteen, the novel is about eccentric scientist Victor Frankenstein, who creates a grotesque creature in an unorthodox scientific experiment.

'Dracula' by Bram Stoker - a tale of a desperate battle against a powerful, ancient vampire.

'The Stand' by Stephen King - When a man crashes his car into a petrol station, he brings with him the foul corpses of his wife and daughter. He dies and it doesn't take long for the plague which killed him to spread across America and the world.

'Flowers for Algernon' by Daniel Keyes. Charlie Gordon, IQ 68, is a floor sweeper and the gentle target for everyone's jokes - until an experiment in the enhancement of human intelligence turns him into a genius. But then Algernon, the mouse whose triumphal experimental transformation preceded his, fades and dies, and Charlie has to face the possibility that his salvation was only temporary.

'Brave New World' by Aldous Huxley - Far in the future, the World Controllers have created the ideal society. Through clever use of genetic engineering, brainwashing and drugs all its members are happy consumers. Bernard Marx seems alone harbouring an ill-defined longing to break free. A visit to one of the few remaining Savage Reservations where the old, imperfect life still continues, may be the cure for his distress...

'The Illustrated Man' (short stories) by Ray Bradbury (especially 'The Veld') - the Illustrated Man of the title is a fairground worker who is covered in tattoos, or 'illustrations'. While he sleeps the illustrations move and each one tells a different story to anyone who may see them.

'Fahrenheit 451' by Ray Bradbury - the hauntingly prophetic classic novel set in a not-too-distant future where books are burned by a special task force of firemen.

'The Time Machine' by H. G. Wells (also a recent film with Guy Pearce) - a seminal and hugely imaginative work of early science fiction, H.G. Wells' *The Time Machine* is the first and greatest modern portrayal of time-travel.

'The Picture of Dorian Gray' by Oscar Wilde - Dorian Gray at the age of eighteen seems blessed beyond all other young men, possessing wealth and beauty.

While having his portrait painted by the artist Basil Hallward, Dorian meets Lord Henry Wotton, a cynic and thinker who convinces Dorian that his youth and beauty are his most important possessions. Falling under Lord Henry's spell, Dorian wishes a fateful wish that he would hold onto his youth and beauty, while his portrait would feel the effects of time and life

‘Wuthering Heights’ by Emily Bronte – a dark tale of unrequited love and revenge.

‘Journey to the Centre of the Earth’ by Jules Verne - The father of science fiction, Jules Verne, invites you to join the intrepid and eccentric Professor Liedenbrock and his companions on a thrilling and dramatic expedition as they travel down a secret tunnel in a volcano in Iceland on a journey which will lead them to the centre of the earth.

‘20 000 Leagues Under the Sea’ by Jules Verne - Professor Aronnax, his faithful servant, Conseil, and the Canadian harpooner, Ned Land, begin an extremely hazardous voyage to rid the seas of a little-known and terrifying sea monster. However, the "monster" turns out to be a giant submarine, commanded by the mysterious Captain Nemo, by whom they are soon held captive.

‘Around the World in 80 Days’, by Jules Verne - When Phileas Fogg wagers a bet that he can travel across the globe in just 80 days, little does he know about the epic journey that he is about to undertake. With his faithful French servant, Passepartout, Phileas Fogg embarks on the adventure of a lifetime, travelling across four continents by whatever means he can - train, elephant, steam ship - and experiencing endless surprises and mishaps along the way.

‘The Fall of the House of Usher and other stories’ by Edgar Allan Poe (short stories) – a collection of classic horror stories including ‘The Tell-Tale Heart’.

‘The Invisible Man’ by H. G. Wells - Depicting one man's transformation and descent into brutality, H.G. Wells’ *The Invisible Man* is a riveting exploration of science's power to corrupt.

Films:

There are many filmed versions of ‘Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde’ – investigate!

‘Jurassic Park’ (1993) - Eccentric billionaire John Hammond employs scientists to bring dinosaurs back to life, with fairly impressive results. Not everything goes to plan, though, and when his dinosaur-ravaged theme park eventually goes amok in the original *Jurassic Park*, it’s a proper blockbuster rollercoaster ride, whose influence is still being felt in big budget Hollywood movies today.

‘The Island’ (2005) Lincoln Six-Echo (Ewan McGregor) and Jordan Two-Delta (Scarlett Johansson) are among hundreds of residents of a contained facility in the mid-21st century. Like all of the inhabitants of this carefully controlled environment, everything about their day-to-day lives is monitored, seemingly for their own good. The only way out is to be chosen to go to The Island, reportedly the last

uncontaminated spot in the world. Recently plagued by unexplained nightmares, Lincoln is restless and increasingly questioning of the restrictions placed on his life. But he is unprepared for the truth when his growing curiosity leads to the terrible discovery that everything about his existence is a lie, that The Island is a cruel hoax, and that he, Jordan and everyone they know are actually more valuable dead than alive.

'I am Legend' (2008) Robert Neville (Will Smith) is a brilliant scientist. But when a man-made virus can't be contained, Neville finds himself the last human survivor in New York City and potentially the world. For three years he faithfully sends out daily radio messages, desperate to find other survivors. But he is not alone... Mutant victims of the plague (The Infected) lurk in the shadows, waiting to catch Neville out. As perhaps Earth's last hope for mankind, Neville is driven only by the desire to somehow reverse the effects of the virus before it's too late...

Various film versions of 'Frankenstein' – again, you may find some of these on YouTube.

'28 Days Later' (2003) A deadly virus escapes from a research centre and within twenty eight days the entire country is infected with the exception of a few survivors... Together they try to build a future for themselves...

'Minority Report' (2002) Tom Cruise stars as a cop pursued by his own colleagues in this Steven Spielberg-directed adaptation of the short story by sci-fi writer Philip K. Dick ('Blade Runner', 'Total Recall'). John Anderton (Cruise) works for the Pre-Crime Division of the Washington DC police force, a special unit which acts on information obtained from mutants with pre-cognitive abilities in order to prevent murders before they have been committed. When the mutants have visions of a murder carried out by Anderton himself, the cop goes on the run and attempts to prove his own future-innocence. But no matter how hard he tries, Anderton cannot stay hidden from the city's advanced surveillance systems for long.

'Bram Stoker's Dracula' (1992) Gary Oldman, Winona Ryder and Anthony Hopkins star in director Francis Ford Coppola's visually stunning, passionately seductive version of the classic Dracula legend. In BRAM STOKER'S DRACULA, Coppola returns to the original source of the Dracula myth, and from that gothic romance, he creates a modern masterpiece. Gary Oldman's metamorphosis as Dracula who grows from old to young, from man to beast is nothing short of amazing. Winona Ryder brings equal intensity to the role of a young beauty who becomes the object of Dracula's devastating desire. Anthony Hopkins co-stars as the famed doctor who dares to believe in Dracula, and then dares to confront him.

'The Manchurian Candidate' (2004) This psychological thriller stars Denzel Washington as Army Major Bennett Marco, a career soldier who grows suspicious about his experience in Desert Storm after Squad Sergeant Raymond Shaw (Liev Schreiber), son of the powerful Senator Eleanor Shaw (Meryl Streep), becomes a candidate for Vice President. A remake of the 1962 feature "The Manchurian Candidate".

'Avatar' (2009)

Avatar is the story of ex-Marine Jake, a paraplegic war veteran, who finds himself thrust into hostilities on a distant planet filled with exotic life forms, Pandora. As an Avatar, a human consciousness in an alien body, he finds himself torn between two worlds in a desperate fight for his own survival and that of the indigenous people. Those from Earth find themselves at odds with each other and the local culture.

'Inception' (2010) Blockbuster sci-fi thriller written and directed by Christopher Nolan. Dom Cobb (Leonardo DiCaprio) is a professional thief with a difference: the spoils he goes after are not material objects but the thoughts, dreams and secrets buried in the minds of other people. This rare talent has cost him dear, rendering him a solitary fugitive stripped of everything he ever really cared about. When he is offered a chance for redemption by reversing the process and planting an idea rather than stealing it, he and his team of specialists find themselves pitted against a dangerous enemy that appears to pre-empt their every move.

Please see generic reading list for more books to enjoy!