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Answer

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Starting with this conversation, explore how Shakespeare presents aggressive male behaviour in Romeo and Juliet

Plan ~

Para 1 ~ Always side to each other despite them being on the same side - no question about whether they'll fight or not - they will - presents the theme as men having to be aggressive? Forced to because of the aggressiveness of others

Para 2 ~ Sexual imagery (like how the men's actually ~~are~~ a suggestion of female weakness, the men's being female genitalia) - ~~the~~ Capulet aggressiveness against Juliet - men aggressive against women

Para 3 ~ Aggressive male behaviour as bringing out vulnerability - it's part of the problem if ~~the~~ Montagues + Capulets didn't feud, the R + J wouldn't have died - part of the cycle of fate the ~~reason~~ root of the problem is their inability to stop being aggressive.

During 'Romeo and Juliet' by William Shakespeare, the theme of aggressive male behaviour is explored in a number of ways. Through the use of ~~sexuality~~ ~~and~~ sexual implications towards women and constant accusation by men at ~~each~~

of each other, Shakespeare raises several ideas concerning the consequences of violence and ~~maybe~~ perhaps even the contribution of these attitudes in male ~~and~~ characters to Romeo and Juliet's tragic end - "For never was a story of more woe, than this of Juliet and her Romeo."

Beginning with the extract, it's interesting to observe the



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conversation held between Sampson ^{before the fight} and Gregory, both ~~members~~ on the same side of the feud about about to begin. Despite this ~~an~~ supposed agreement between the characters, Gregory is still mocking of Sampson in a quite a cruel way, suggesting that ~~they~~ ^{they} ~~was~~ ^{was} not up to fight - "How, turn thy back and run?" Although this exchange could be analysed as simply being playfully insulting, it introduces the concept of the ~~an~~ ingrained attitude men of ^{the} time could be understood in the

ao1-14

ao2-13

viewing. This is further supported by Sampson's immediate assumption that ~~the~~ ~~Alans~~ the ~~opponents~~ other group of people in the scene would to fight - "let them begin." Both these quotes combined suggest that perhaps men in ~~the~~ ~~the~~ the play are so accustomed to violence and aggression that they are unable to ~~comprehend~~ ~~to~~ go about their lives without

ao2-14

aggressive ~~was~~ behaviour to their actions, being cruel to everyone and everything out of instinct. If we took this concept to be true, ~~it~~ ~~it~~ ~~it~~ ~~then~~ ~~the~~ ~~concept~~ we may be led to question ~~if~~ why ~~they~~ they have this attitude - is it ~~not~~ ~~not~~ better for them to be peaceful? Taking ~~the~~ ~~constant~~ ~~violence~~, taking the constant aggression of all the characters into account, perhaps this immediate and unquestionable behaviour may even be the cause of the problem - even could be understood as being ~~from~~ forced to maintain aggressiveness to defend themselves against the same attitude from others. ~~adding~~ In this way, ~~one~~ ~~person~~ could be understood as presenting this behaviour as inescapable and inevitable, considering the consequences if ~~one~~ ~~was~~ ~~to~~ a man were to drop this act - "Oh vile, dishonourable submission."

ao3-14



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Many metaphors such as

^{** the use of a 'rule of three' emphasizing the impact of the threat.}

Aggressive male behaviour is also presented in Romeo and Juliet as ~~being~~ having a significant impact on the lives of women as well. The

ao1-15

...ing gesture that Sampson demonstrates - "bite my thumb at them" would have been better understood by an audience member of the Elizabethan era through its more popular usage during the time. The act of biting the thumb ^{metaphorically} originated from the idea of the thumb "representing" ^{ao3-15} which by biting ~~the~~ would send offensive sexual messages to the other person, perhaps ~~implying~~ suggesting them to be 'meat like ~~women~~

ao2-15

women. ~~was~~ ^{was} ~~concept~~ it continued throughout the play in a manner that also heavily affects Juliet, especially ~~attending~~ in terms of her relationship with her father, Capulet. ~~By~~ Upon Juliet's attempt to take control over her life, Capulet violently retaliates, ^{insulting} ~~calling~~ her "baggage" and encouraging her to "hang, beg, die in the streets." This is reflective of the treatment of women during the Elizabethan era as well, wherein women were perceived as ~~being~~ being the property of men. In this way, ~~Cap~~ Capulet's own demonstration of aggressiveness in men ~~is~~ presents this theme as being a patriarchal issue, and ~~felt~~ ^{is} (linked to the last paragraph) impactful on both men and women, ~~events~~ ~~encouraging~~ perhaps encouraging the audience to ~~understand~~ see ~~it~~ as being negative and ~~therefore~~ ^{should} ~~be~~ ~~altered~~ and maybe even something that ~~should~~ be altered.

Finally, in terms of this theme's connection to the deaths



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of Romeo and Juliet, it's interesting to consider how this attitude may have very heavily influenced the tragic end to the play. The root of the play's plot is introduced in the prologue - "Two houses both alike in dignity... whose misadventured piteous slays... blood makes civil hands unclean", leaving the theme of the feud between the families fresh in the audience's mind throughout the play.* This concept of this disagreement could be analysed as affecting Romeo and Juliet's death in several ways. Firstly, the feud between Tybalt and Mercutio occurring as a result of Romeo's attempt to disobey the aggressive attitude expected of him leads to death, followed by his exile, perhaps then consequently causing his death. In this way, Romeo's attempt to break the violent behavioural pattern in the play could be seen as having led very directly to his death, introducing ideas that he should not go against his fate to be an aggressive man he brought about his death - "I defy thee, star!" On the other hand, the more general feud between Montagues and Capulets, mainly as a result of the confrontational behaviour of ladies (and maybe even their inability to stop being aggressive) caused the prevention of the peaceful relationship between Romeo and Juliet leading to their deaths. In contrast to the last idea, this instead introduces the idea that change was the problem - the cycle of aggression between families was not broken, leading to the deaths of the children - "If... found means to kill your joys with love!" In this way, the death of Romeo and Juliet could be seen as being directly caused

ao1-16



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by male aggression - either due to their inability to stop its occurrence, or due to an attempt to change it.

To conclude, the theme of male aggression in *Romeo and Juliet* could be understood as being presented by Shakespeare in a way that is ~~destructive~~ ~~or~~ destructive, affecting the lives of both men and women, and perhaps even leading to the tragic end of our "star-crossed lovers."

level 5+ao1

Jekyll and Hyde essay ~

Plan ~

Para 1 ~ Agree - Jekyll is ~~forced to~~ forced to be isolated from ~~others~~, always separate from ~~others~~ - we watch him on the brink of happiness which is stolen away again.

Para 2 ~ Disagree - Utterson breaks his quite perfect gentlemanly 'front' for Jekyll, yet he consistently rejects any help - selfish, self absorbed

Para 3 ~ Becomes increasingly disliked - ~~how~~ more and more into Hyde?

During the 'Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde,' Robert Louis Stevenson presents Dr. Jekyll's character in a number of ways that ~~frustrate~~ ~~to~~ I personally believe ~~to~~ cause frustration in the reader's feelings of sympathy towards him.

ao1-l1

Through the use of a variety of literary devices combined with ~~his~~ the ways in which his relationship with others ~~shifts~~ throughout the novella, Jekyll is presented ~~to~~ in ways that could



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~~suggest~~ both cause like and dislike in the reader.

In terms of the opinion's relevance regarding the effect extract, I agree with the statement.

Tecyll is described using a somewhat tragic lexical field, examples being his description as

ao1-13

"~~some~~ ~~isolate~~ prisoner", the noun ~~prisoner~~ "prisoner" introducing ideas of isolation and

ao2-12

Tecyll being made to connect ~~with~~ ~~and~~ ~~the~~ ~~world~~. ~~in the eyes of~~ In the eyes of someone already accustomed familiar with the

novel's plot, the use of "prisoner" could also be a suggestion of Tecyll feeling ~~is~~ restricted and

literally 'prisoner' to Hyde. The ~~extract~~ extract then concludes with the very abrupt though

ao2-14

Tecyll's sudden retraction with what could be understood as being a ~~texted~~ relaxed exchange

with Utheron - "smile was struck out of his face"; "window was instantly thrust ~~down~~ down". The use of

the verb "struck" introduces the idea that Tecyll is being controlled by something ~~at~~ of his

~~rather~~ other than himself, ~~through~~ ~~the~~ ~~eyes~~ therefore perhaps leading the reader to become begin to

feel sorry for Tecyll's lack of control over his ~~own~~ ~~actions~~.

ao1-14

it ~~effect~~ could be understood as being especially impactful through Stevenson's

use of ~~struck~~ - Tecyll is having a pleasant conversation, which is suddenly cut off, slowing the

pace of the novel and consequently perhaps emphasizing the ~~strange~~ ~~strange~~ lack of decision on

his part to ~~complete~~ suddenly leave. In this way, Stevenson could be seen as encouraging the reader to

sympathetic with Tecyll through his emphasis of



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The idea that Telegyi lacks control and therefore so do we - we cannot save him, he is trapped destined to be alone and separate from others. This idea becomes increasingly tragic as the reader is forced to watch Telegyi suffer.

Although agreeing with the with the statement in the last paragraph, there are some segments of the novel that lead me to ~~hesitate~~ to ~~hesitate~~ instead disagree. This conclusion focuses more on Telegyi's relationship with Ufferon, a character introduced during the opening ~~to~~ section as

ao1-15

perfect Victorian gentleman - ~~the~~ ~~long~~, ~~lean~~, ~~steady~~, "somehow lovable" ~~long~~

"I let my brother go to the devil in his own way!"

There quite demonstrates his positive effect on other people, in which he is kind to others yet also removed, ~~to~~ not becoming too involved in personal

matters yet also ~~to~~ showing consideration for ~~others~~ and particular care for others. This links to the theme of reputation, connecting with the novel's context in which the status of Victorian gentlemen was an extremely important part of factor of society, and following the strict rules ~~needed~~ needed to maintain this image ~~was a~~ ~~was~~

ao3-14

is an important factor part of every gentleman's life. However, despite being pleased in this way, Ufferon ~~is~~ ~~also~~ could actually be understood as abandoning this image for the sake of his friend, demonstrated when he questions ~~the~~ Telegyi concerning his will - "unkindly disregarding the fresh topic". This action on his behalf ~~is~~ ~~is~~ could be understood as being surprisingly stubborn, and therefore ~~very~~ ~~at~~ perhaps quite disrespectful,



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Therefore demonstrating ^{significant} a "commitment" in ~~an~~ Utterton ~~that~~ to ~~help~~ helping his friend. Despite this effort, Telyn still refuses this offer of help completely in several cases - "no, no, no, it is quite impossible," therefore completely ignoring Utterton's efforts to help, even despite the length Utterton went to in order to do so. In this way, Telyn could be understood as being perhaps quite selfish - "he was surprised by his friend's selfishness," and therefore perhaps ^{of a sympathetic} character that the reader may come to dislike instead of through this dismissal of ~~other~~ ~~efforts~~ ~~and~~ ~~and~~ the efforts of Utterton. ✓

My last ~~part~~ point considers how sympathy for Telyn might shift as the novel progresses, in such a way that sympathy may be felt on some points but may begin to fade as they continue to read. For example, Telyn ~~is~~ is presented during the beginning of the play as perhaps quite innocent, and genuine, described ~~being~~ in terms of his attitude to Utterton as having a "sincere ^{and} and warm affection for him." This use of language almost ~~seems~~ seem childlike, the idea of ~~his~~ ~~and~~ the adjectives "warm" and "sincere" ~~is~~ creating images of innocence. ~~and~~ ~~perhaps~~ This ~~view~~ ~~of~~ Telyn could therefore be ~~more~~

ao2-15

~~more~~ ~~could~~ ~~perhaps~~ create more sympathy in the ~~view~~ ~~of~~ the idea of such ~~be~~ pain inflicted on someone so ~~is~~ gentle, and perhaps even ~~could~~ vulnerable, being cruel. However, this perspective begins shifting through the novel, where Telyn ~~is~~ is described as "selfish", ~~and~~ even causing the death of Lanyon - "I shall never ~~be~~ recover." Finally, ~~the~~ this perspective of Telyn reaches a climax



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of negativity, where Teagyn confesses in the last chapter of having "concealed my pleasures." To a Victorian reader, the concept of having such pleasures could be seen as disgusting, & perhaps potentially completely shattering the innocent image they'd ~~pre~~ primarily had of Teagyn's character. ~~But adds it's interesting to consider~~ Using this development, it's interesting to consider a potential ~~cause of this~~ cause for this change, ~~perhaps why~~ the gradual changing of Teagyn's character from 'good' to 'bad' could therefore be

ao1-16

~~of the power~~ the power of Hyde becoming increasingly dominant, this shift perhaps ~~became~~ becoming evident in Teagyn's own ~~last~~ behaviour. If we took this to be the case, ~~the~~ a reader may then be brought back to square one, in which they feel sympathy for Teagyn - ~~the~~ the once innocent and lovely Teagyn ~~has~~ has been morphed into something evil ~~against~~ against his will. In this sense, Stevenson ~~manipulates~~ manipulates the sympathies of ~~the~~ the reader, ~~changing~~ leading me to both agree and ~~disagree~~ disagree with his statement.

In conclusion, Stevenson uses a variety of literary techniques to alter the reader's perception of ~~the~~ Teagyn throughout the novel, using his changing relationship with other characters ~~and~~ and contrasting demonstrations of character ~~to~~ traits to ~~simultaneously~~ represent the increasing dominance of Hyde, ~~and~~ ~~constantly~~ ~~affecting~~ ~~potentially~~ ~~cause~~ ~~therefore~~ constantly affecting the attitude, ~~of~~ and therefore sympathy, of the reader.

level 5+ao1-ao3



Write the two digit question number *inside* the boxes next to the first line of your answer

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