Section B: the 19th century novel

Answer one question from this section on your chosen text.

Robert Louis Stevenson: The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde

Read the following extract from chapter 8 and then answer the question that follows.

In this extract Utterson has received a surprise visit from Poole.

It was a wild, cold, seasonable night of March, with a pale moon lying on her back as though the wind has tilted her, and a flying wrack of the most diaphanous and lawny texture. The wind made talking difficult, and flecked the blood into the face. It seemed to have swept the streets unusually bare of passengers; beside, for Mr. Utterson thought he had never seen that part of London so deserted. He could've wished it no otherwise; never in his life had he been so conscious of so sharp a wish to see and touch his fellow creatures; for, struggle as he might there was borne in upon his mind a crushing anticipation of calamity. The square, when they got there was all full of wind and dust, and the thin tress in the garden were lashing themselves along the railing. Poole, who had all the way kept a pace or two ahead, now pulled up in the middle of the pavement, and in spite of the biting weather, took off his hat and mopped his brow with a red pocket- handkerchief. But for all the hurry of his coming, these were of the dews of exertion that he wiped away, but the moisture of some strangling anguish; for his face was white, and his voice, when he spoke, harsh and broken.

"Well, sir," he said, "here we are, and God grant there be nothing wrong." "Amen, Poole," said the lawyer. Thereupon the servant knocked in a very guarded manner; the door was opened on the chain; and a voice asked from within, "Is that you, Poole?" "It's all right," said Poole. "Open the door." The hall, when they entered it, was brightly lighted up; the fire was built high; and about the hearth the whole of the servants, men and women, stood huddled together like a flock of sheep. At the sight of Mr. Utterson, the housemaid broke into hysterical whimpering; and the cook, crying out, "Bless God! It's Mr. Utterson," ran forward as if to take him in her arms.

Starting with this extract, how does Stevenson use pathetic fallacy to create a gothic atmosphere?

Write about:

- How Stevenson uses pathetic fallacy to create a gothic atmosphere in this extract;
- How Stevenson uses pathetic fallacy in the novella as a whole.

(30 marks)