**Countenance:** Expression

**Stalwart:** reliable and hard working

**Gaiters**: protective cloth worn from ankles to knees

**Isolation of the Protagonist**

The apartment and furniture would have been nothing extraordinary as belonging to a homely, northern farmer, with a stubborn **countenance**, and **stalwart** limbs set out to advantage in knee- breeches and **gaiters**. Such an individual seated in his arm-chair, his mug of ale frothing on the round table before him, is to be seen in any circuit of five or six miles among these hills, if you go at the right time after dinner. But Mr. Heathcliff forms a singular contrast to his abode and style of living. He is a dark- skinned gipsy in aspect, in dress and manners a gentleman: that is, as much a gentleman as many a country squire: rather slovenly, perhaps, yet not looking amiss with his negligence, because he has an erect and handsome figure; and rather morose. Possibly, some people might suspect him of a degree of under-bred pride; I have a sympathetic chord within that tells me it is nothing of the sort: I know, by instinct, his reserve springs from an aversion to showy displays of feeling - to manifestations

How is the protagonist Heathcliff isolated?

What does this contrast suggest about Heathcliff?

The description of Heathcliff is full of contrasts – what could this suggest about him?

In what ways is Heathcliff and Lockwood isolated? What could this foreshadow?

What do these extremes of emotion suggest about Heathcliff? Can you link him to any other male gothic characters?

of mutual kindliness. He'll love and hate equally under cover, and **esteem** it a species of **impertinence** to be loved or hated again. No, I'm running on too fast: I bestow my own attributes over-liberally on him. Mr. Heathcliff may have entirely dissimilar reasons for keeping his hand out of the way when he meets a would-be acquaintance, to those which actuate me. Let me hope my constitution is almost peculiar: my dear mother used to say I should never have a comfortable home; and only last summer I proved myself perfectly unworthy of one.

... I found him very intelligent on the topics we touched; and before I went home, I was encouraged so far as to volunteer another visit to-morrow. He evidently wished no repetition of my intrusion. I shall go, notwithstanding. It is astonishing how sociable I feel myself compared with him.

How are Heathcliff and Lockwood bot portrayed as outsiders here?

The hero-villain is a stock gothic character. How is this portrayed here?

**Esteem:** Regard

**Impertinence:** Insolence or cheekiness