3. Write an analysis of Stevenson’s use of language in this extract. Think about how the adjectives (‘sinister’, ‘blind’, ‘discoloured’, ‘sordid’, ‘blistered’, ‘disdained’) might create an impression of the building or contrast it with the street on which it stands.

2. Draw the door and its setting, labelling your picture with quotations from the extract.

Two doors from one corner, on the left hand going east the line was broken by the entry of a court; and just at that point a certain sinister block of building thrust forward its gable on the street. It was two storeys high; showed no window, nothing but a door on the lower storey and a blind forehead of discoloured wall on the upper; and bore in every feature, the marks of prolonged and sordid negligence. The door, which was equipped with neither bell nor knocker, was blistered and distained. Tramps slouched into the recess and struck matches on the panels; children kept shop upon the steps; the schoolboy had tried his knife on the mouldings; and for close on a generation, no one had appeared to drive away these random visitors or to repair their ravages.

**The Door – an analysis of setting**

Stevenson describes a busy street in London. During the week it is a shopping street. Stevenson describes the shop fronts as being inviting, like ‘rows of smiling saleswomen’. This simile brings the shops alive, making them seem welcoming to customers. He creates a contrast between this street and the ‘dingy neighbourhood’ around it.

1. Read this student’s interpretation of Stevenson’s use of language in this extract. Do you agree with them? Annotate their response for WWW/EBI and add to or change their analysis to improve it by **writing around** the answer.

It chanced on one of these rambles that their way led them down a by-street in a busy quarter of London. The street was small and what is called quiet, but it drove a thriving trade on the weekdays. The inhabitants were all doing well, it seemed and all emulously hoping to do better still, and laying out the surplus of their grains in coquetry; so that the shop fronts stood along that thoroughfare with an air of invitation, like rows of smiling saleswomen. Even on Sunday, when it veiled its more florid charms and lay comparatively empty of passage, the street shone out in contrast to its dingy neighbourhood, like a fire in a forest; and with its freshly painted shutters, well-polished brasses, and general cleanliness and gaiety of note, instantly caught and pleased the eye of the passenger.