

## ***PART 1 - The Antipode and a Czech Teacher***

### ***Summary***

James is a blond, thin man, forty-five years old.

He was born in Australia to a Czech mother, so he can speak Czech. He lived in Melbourne; his apartment was on the 42nd floor. His family was rich; he inherited a lot of money from his father.

One day he came to Prague to sort out his family inheritance because his uncle had died.

He stayed in Prague and started working in his uncle's antique bookshop. Then he had an accident.

The policeman who was investigating James's accident recommended that James should go to therapy.

James was meeting with a psychotherapist Dana Vítová for some time, but it didn't help him remember. In the end he started a personal relationship with her.

Now, five years later, he still doesn't remember what happened or what he did during that year. He likes books and feels safe in his bookshop.

He met some people from his past, but he doesn't remember them:

Julie, who says they were lovers before the accident. She is very pretty, and after the accident, she has prosthetic legs. She showed James a secret vault.

Adele, his lawyer in Prague, who manages his business, helped him get new documents.

Pat, his lawyer in Melbourne, misses James because they were good friends.

They all know something about him, but the whole story is still a mystery.

**Who is the antipode? And who is the Czech teacher?**

### ***Learning tips***

#### ***Chapter 1***

**even** – dokonce, i, klidně

**to write something down** – zapsat

**actually** – vlastně

**literally** – doslova

**right away** – hned, rovnou

**to doze off** – zdřímnout si

**to be staying somewhere** – bydlet někde dočasně; být ubytovaný

**after hours** – po zavírací době

**Faculty of Arts** – Filosofická fakulta

**his living** – jeho živobytí

**pulled back** – zatáhl

**It no longer made sense** – (v tu chvíli) už to nedávalo smysl

Multiple sclerosis – roztroušená skleroza

**favorite** (US spelling, in UK it would be "favourite")

**neighbor** (US spelling, in UK it would be "neighbour")

**center** (US spelling, in UK it would be "centre")

**There's no point in something** – nemá cenu, nemá smysl

**To get used to something** – na něco si zvyknout

**Obviously** – očividně, evidentně

**draft beer** – točené pivo

**apartment** (US, in UK it would be "flat")

## *Chapter 2*

**defence** (UK spelling, in US it would be "defense")

**fight** – tady ve významu hádka (neznačená to vždy "boj")

**crochet/ing** – háčkování (Crochet princess – háčkováná princezna)

**nightmare** – noční můra

**by him** – 7. pád kým čím = jím okouzlena

**by then** – do té doby

**good excuse** – dobrá výmluva

**gotta** – americký hovorový výraz pro "muset"

**to wonder** – má více významů, zde znamená "tápat, uvažovat, přemýšlet jestli"

Minulý kondicionál:

**could have done, would have done, might have done** = vnímej to v češtině jako "mohl udělat, udělal by"; jen si všimni té konstrukce, která neznámá nic jiného, než jeden z gramatických časů v minulosti;

Přítomný kondicionál:

could do, would do, might do = v přítomnosti

**let alone** – natož

**for good** – nadobro, navždy

**to get rid of something** – něčeho se zbavit

**Figured it out** – došlo mi to, pochopil jsem to

**all of a sudden** = suddenly (z ničeho nic, najednou)

**I get that = I figured it out** – chápu to, rozumím tomu, došlo mi to (dle kontextu)

## *Chapter 3*

**mail** – pošta (ne jen elektronická)

**it rings a bell / it doesn't ring a bell** – něco mi to připomíná / nic mi to nepřipomíná

**very next evening** – hned ten další večer (very se používá i ve významu "úplně" – very new = úplně nový)

**too bad** – škoda, že....

**he had his food delivered** – nechal si jídlo dovézt (nechával si jídlo dovážet)

**to have something done** – dát si / nechat si něco udělat odborníkem

**I had my car washed** = nechala /dala jsem si umýt auto = udělal to někdo jiný, většinou profesionál

**To feel like something** – mít na něco chuť / náladu

**Care about** (frázové sloveso) – starat se ve smyslu zajímat se o...

**Care for** = mít o někoho péči/starost ve smyslu mít ho rád, záležet na někom

**Take care of** = o někoho pečovat

**Notebook** – sešit, pozor na záměnu

**Focus on** – zaměřit se na něco, i ve významu "soustředit se"

Pozor: **concentrate** vyjadřuje intenzitu a úsilí nevnímat nic jiného, nejen zaměřit pozornost

## Chapter 4

**Thick** – ne jen tlustý/silný, ale i hustý, například thick fog = hustá mlha (*zde hustá, průsvitná bílá záclona*)

**You used to like** – co jsi míval rád (minulý čas, česky něco jako "bývávalo")

Nezaměňovat "I **used to do** something" x "I **am used to doing** something" = něco jsem dělávala x jsem přivyklá, uvyklá něco dělat

**Not at all** – vůbec (jako reakce na poděkování je to zastaralé a neoužívá se)

**County** = něco jako *okres*

**Region** = něco jako *kraj*

**I might as well forget** / You might as well go now / He might as well kill her = klidně můžu zapomenout / Můžeš klidně jít / Klidně ji může zabít – ve významu "*a nic se nestane, nic se nezmění*"

## Chapter 5

**Even though** – ačkoli (Na nižší úrovni by se klidně dalo nahradit spojkou ale na začátku druhé věty; zkus se naučit zjednodušovat, v hlavě ti běží "ačkoli, i když, přestože..., tak..." a řekni anglicky "...., but...")

**She didn't dare say no** – neodvážila se říct ne (Na nižší úrovni se dá říct "couldn't say no" – nemohla říct ne, nedokázala...)

Běží ti v hlavě "**neodmítla** jsem?" ale neznáš pokročilé slovíčko "odmítnout"? Řekni: "I didn't say no." = znamená to to samé

**She found Adele attractive** – zkuste odhadnout z následujících vět s podobným významem:

"I found the film very boring. I find the course quite difficult. How did you find the dinner?"

Česky se používá slovíčko, které má podobný základ jako v angličtině "find", vydedukuješ ho?

**Apparently** – podobné jako "obviously" (sekce 1.1.9)

**Gonna** – americké "going to"

## *Chapter 6*

**Vault** = strongbox = safe

**volumes** = books

**journal** = diary

**jewelry** – americký spelling; britský – jewellery

**palm** – dlaň

## *Chapter 7*

**To be supposed to do something** – konzultuj s českou verzí

**to give birth** – porodit, rodit

**I'm about to do something** – chystat se něco udělat, málem začít, velmi brzy

**something is due...** – něco má termín... (an invoice is due... – faktura je splatná, má termín splatnosti...)

Jendodušeji: "I will give birth soon / I am going to give birth in two weeks."

Ještě jednodušejí: "I will have a baby soon."

**memory book** = journal, diary

**pregnancy** = 9 months in woman's life before giving birth

**although** = even though

**Jr.** = junior; česky používáme slovo "mladší"; zkratka je "džej ár"

## *Questions true x false / who did it*

### *Chapter 1*

- a) On Tuesdays, there were many customers in the shop just before closing time. FALSE
- b) James came to the city to visit his mother and decided to stay and manage his uncle's estate. TRUE

### *Chapter 2*

- a) He clearly recognized the scared eyes he saw. FALSE
- b) The brunette came to him because she was interested in French poetry. TRUE
- c) Dana reminded him that he had been found in the ravine with broken bones. FALSE
- d) He sometimes felt shy with the college girls who flirted with him. TRUE
- e) When the girl picked up her sunglasses from the rug, James was reminded that he should finally clean the place. TRUE
- f) Most of his days were exciting and full of important events to remember. FALSE

- g) After the accident, James's personal documents were missing, but his keys were still in his pocket. TRUE
- h) James and Dr. Vítová kept focusing only on therapy sessions and never crossed personal boundaries. FALSE
- i) When the woman said she hated poems and anything French, James suddenly felt déjà vu and his head began to buzz. TRUE
- j) James was certain she was the woman from the cliff and remembered exactly what had happened. FALSE
- k) James pretended (that) he hadn't noticed her problems with walking. FALSE
- l) Who suggested leaving the shop at once so they could talk somewhere else. James or Julie? JULIE

### *Chapter 3*

- a) James could log into his mailbox only because the password was saved in the browser. TRUE
- b) The receptionist at the law office knew James personally and remembered many details about his life. FALSE
- c) Who gave James a notebook and a pen so he could start writing his journal? ADELE
- d) Who was left-handed? JAMES

### *Chapter 4*

- e) Julie sometimes used a wheelchair at home because wearing prosthetics was painful. TRUE
  - f) James thought that he could never care for Julie after she lost her legs. FALSE
1. Jakých alespoň 5 slov ses při čtení románu dosud naučila (pochopila, zapamatovala a použila v praktickém tréninku)?
  2. Jaké alespoň 2 obraty nebo gramatické jevy jsou ti teď jasnější?

### *Chapter 5*

- a) Even though Pat was married, she still felt jealous of James's girlfriend. TRUE
- b) Pat refused to visit James's apartment because she didn't like carrying heavy papers. FALSE
- c) Pat thought that Adele was good-looking. TRUE
- d) Apparently, James never replied to Pat's wedding invitation. TRUE
- e) James felt safe and peaceful in the bookshop, as if it was the best place in the world. TRUE

### *Chapter 6*

- f) James helped Julie down the stairs, even though she didn't really need help. TRUE
- g) When Julie mentioned the vault, James knew she was talking about a safe. FALSE
- h) The watch was the only thing that survived the accident without damage. TRUE
- i) In the end, James closed the shop before 7 pm. FALSE
- j) They found some old books and James's uncle's journals inside the safe. TRUE

- k) Julie really found some sex toys hidden in the safe. FALSE
- l) James believed the missing jewelry had been his mother's. TRUE
- m) Julie guessed that James was holding a small pouch in his imagination. TRUE

## *Chapter 7*

- n) Who is Kevin? KEVIN IS ADELE'S HUSBAND AND WAS JAMES'S FRIEND BEFORE THE ACCIDENT
- o) What can he help James with? KEVIN CAN HELP JAMES SELL HIS ESTATE
- p) Does James remember him? NO
- q) In your opinion, are James and Kevin going to meet?

## *Creative Questions*

### *James and Julie*

- Do you think James loved Julie before the accident?
- Why do you think Julie came back after five years? Was it really because she lost her legs, or could there be another reason?
- Would you trust her if you were James?

### *James's family*

- Do you think James's uncle and his mother were still in touch after she emigrated?
- Why do you think the bookshop became so important for James?
- Do you think James and his father had a good relationship?
- Do you think James's mother wanted him to stay in Czechia, or would she prefer if he returned to Australia?
- Why do you think she taught him Czech?

### *James & women*

- Why did Pat think that her husband would be jealous of James?
- Why do you think James felt uncomfortable around young girls who flirted with him?
- Why do you think Dana agreed to end the therapy and start a personal relationship with James?

### *About James himself*

- What do you think about James's lifestyle and daily routine?
- Why did James like the customers who asked him questions, even if they didn't buy anything?
- Do you think James really wants to remember everything from the past?
- Do you think it would make him happy or sad to know the truth?

*Contact me on whatsapp! I'm waiting for your message! Katka*