

STOP MEMORISING VOCABULARY WORDS

*We
develop a passion
for Teaching!*



INFINITY PODCASTS 1374

hi there this is Harry and
welcome back
to Advanced English Lessons
with Harry
where I try to help you to get
a better
understanding of the English
language
now in this particular lesson
I'm
actually going to do
something very
different we haven't done it
before i'm
going to introduce you to a
book a
fictional book that I really
really love

i'm going to read a passage
not a long
passage a passage from the
book and then
I'm going to go through that
passage and
pick out some advanced
words and
expressions that I think you'll
find
useful so this is going to have
lots of
different benefits for you
okay so

here's the book it's called The
Tower
The Zoo and the Tortoise the
Tower The

Zoo and the Tortoise so here
it is and
the author of this book okay
this author
of this book is called Julia
Stewart and
as the title suggests the Tower
the Zoo
and the tortoise it's about the
Tower of
London so it's all set in the
Tower of
London and those of you who
have visited
London will know some of
the history
about the Tower it's about
animals in
the Tower of London so it's

fictional
and of course one particular
animal that
happens to be the pet of the
key
character of this book is the
tortoise
okay so the main character in
our book
is a beef eater he's a beef eater
or
gets a job as the beef eater
because
he's not originally so he gets a
job as
a beef eater in the Tower of
London
again if you have visited the
Tower of

London you'll see them at the
entrance
you'll see them inside and
centuries ago
they used to be used to guard
the jewels
and they were fed very well
so to stop
them from stealing the jewels
and
because they had such an
important job
to guard the royal jewels so
they were
paid well in food so they
often were
given beef and beef wasn't so
easy to
get for the common person so

this is
where the expression beef
eater came
from that they were fed or
paid using
food and beef so you know
the
traditional English dish of
roast beef
so they were fed with beef
and uh always
the pictures of the beef eaters
are
quite stout men so you can
imagine that
they did eat plenty of beef so
that's
the name beef eaters and they
had and

still do today although it's
only
ceremonial now they have red
uniforms
and a flat black hat okay so
I'm going
to go down through some of
the key
characters now let me get you
the the
characters so the cast of the
characters
the two main people are a
husband and
wife and the the husband is
the beef
eater who he gets the job as
the beef
eater and his name is

Balthazar Jones or
B A L T H A Z A R B B B B
B B B B B B B
B B B B B B B B B B B B
B B B B B B B B
B B B B B B B Bzar Jones
he's the beef
eater or the overseer of the
zoo within
the the Tower of London and
his wife Hei
H E be He Jones okay and she
works in
the London Underground and
she works in
the lost property office of the
London
Underground and very funny
stories in

the book about various items
that appear
or turn up in the lost property
office

so they are give you some
quite amusing
parts to the book mrs cook
now Mrs cook

is not a cook at all she's
nothing to do
with the kitchens this is the
name of

the tortoise and the tortoise is
the

181year-old tortoise or the pet
belonging to Mr and Mrs
jones so this is
the the story of the the

tortoise he Jones whose own
earnings
were modest knew that their
savings
would never stretch to the
university
education they both wanted
for their son
ignoring the dread that set
like cement
in her guts she dismissed her
husband's
warning that they would have
to live at
the tower if he were
successful it's
every woman's dream to live
in a castle
she lied not turning round

from the
stove when Balthazar Jones
discovered
that she had never visited the
famous
monument he asked how it
was possible
since she had spent most of
her
childhood in
London she explained that her
parents
had only ever taken their four
daughters
to the British Museum to see
the Elgin
marbles the sound of Mr and
Mrs
grammaticus weeping as they

stood in
front of the Greek exhibits
pilfered by
the English was so
catastrophic that the
family was eventually banned
from the
museum for life the couple
consequently
refused to visit any British
landmarks a
protest He had kept up in
adulthood out
of familial solidarity
in case his wife wasn't aware
Balthazar
Jones pointed out that not
only was the
Tower of London a royal

palace and
fortress but it had once been
England's
state
prison had with witnessed
numerous
executions and was also
widely believed
to be
haunted but he Jones simply
disappeared
into the garden shed and
emerged with a
blue and white striped deck
chair she
sat down and pulled out of a
shopping
bag a guide to the tower that
she had

purchased to prepare her
husband for his
interview with the
ruthlessness of a
gunner she started to fire
questions at
the man who had failed the
history ole
to such a spectacular degree
that the
astonished marker kept a
copy of his
paper to cheer herself up
during her
most debilitating bouts of
depression he
Jones maintained the battery
as her
husband paced up and down

the lawn
scratching the back of his
neck as he
searched for the answers in
the empty
bird cage of his
head his wife's determination
was
absolute balthazar Jones
would receive a
call at lunchtime asking not
what he
fancied for supper but the
name of the
woman who was sent to the
tower in the
13th century for rejecting the
advances
of King John who

subsequently poisoned
her with an egg she would
return home
from work and inquire not
how her
husband's day had been but in
which
tower the Duke of Clarence
had been
drowned in a bat of his
favorite maldi
wine
bathed in sweat after love
making she
would lift her head from his
chest and
demand that he revealed not
the depth of
his devotion for her but the

name of the
17th century thief who made
it as far as
the tower warf with the crown
jewels by
the time the job offer arrived
in the
post Balthasar Jones brain
had been
unsettled by so much English
history
that it provoked in him a
mania for the
subject that afflicted him for
the rest
of his life so let me read that
again
it's a second time might be a
better

reading this time okay he
Jones whose

own earnings were modest
knew that their
savings would never stretch
to the
university education they both
wanted
for their son ignoring the
dread that
set like cement in her guts she
dismissed her husband's
warning that
they would have to live at the
tower if
he were successful it's every
woman's
dream to live in a castle she

lied not
turning round from the stove
when
Balthazar Jones discovered
that she had
never visited the famous
monument he
asked how it was possible
since she had
spent most of her childhood
in London
she explained that her parents
had only
ever taken their four
daughters to the
British Museum to see the
Elgen marbles
the sound of Mr and Mrs
grammaticus

weeping as they stood in front
of the
Greek exhibits Pilfford by the
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day had
been but in which tower the
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Clarence had been drowned
in a bat of
his favorite Malmazi wine
bathed in sweat after love
making she
would lift her head from his
chest and
demand that he revealed not
the depth of
his devotion for her but the
name of the

17th century thief who made
it as far as
the tower warf with the crown
jewels by
the time the job offer arrived
in the
post Balthazar Jones brain
had been
unsettled by so much English
history
that it provoked in him a
mania for the
subject that afflicted him for
the rest
of his life okay so that's the
ending of
the passage pages 22 and 23
of the book
so what I'm going to do now

is pick out
some words I've selected that
I think
you'll enjoy so the first one is
to

stretch to and she says in in
the book
she this is about her own
personal
earnings she knew that their
savings
would never stretch too okay
so what she
was talking about there is that
they had
some savings but they would
be not uh
nearly enough to cover the

university
costs for their son so when
you have to
stretch to something it means
you have
to make it last for a long time
so if
they had €5,000 for example
in the the
bank as a savings it would
never stretch
to nearly enough to cover a
very
expensive university course
or not an
even modest university course
so to
stretch to now other ways in
which we

can use stretch to you might
be out for
a meal with your partner and
it's maybe
a a modest but keenly priced
menu and
your wife says "Do you think
we could
have a dessert or do you think
we could
have another glass of wine?"
And you
might say jokingly "Oh I
think the
budget will stretch to that."
meaning I
think we have enough money
in the budget
to afford another glass of

wine or
indeed to afford a dessert
okay so to
stretch to means will there be
enough to
cover that extra glass of wine
or that
extra dessert the second word
or verb
here is to to weep okay so to
weep means
to cry so it's another way to
cry
somebody was weeping
because their pet
had died okay so to weep
means to cry so
you could simply have said h
she was

crying but uh weeping gives a
little bit
more explanation and it's a it's
a
little bit more colorful
description of
how the emotion emotions
were to to weep
i think when they were they
were using
it about the uh her parents the
she is
Greek so when she went
initially to the
museum with her parents
when she was
young that her mother and
father Mr and
Mrs grammaticus as they

were called were
weeping as they stood in front
of the
Elgin marbles and the Elgin
marbles were
these particular pieces of
Greek history
that apparently the British
stole at
some stage during their
conquests and
they are sitting in the British
Museum
and as an argument be going
back and
forwards for many many
decades as to
whether the British are
eventually going

to return them to the rightful
owners so
their her parents who were
Greek were
weeping because the fact that
they they
could see the elegant marble
so to to
weep the verb to weep
weeping in that
continuous format to pilfer
another verb
to piller and to piller is quite
an
old-fashioned and formal way
about
stealing so when you pilier
something
it's not big amounts or huge

things that
have been stolen but to piler
usually
refers to small things so
maybe some
kids in the sweet shop piler
some
sweets they slide them into
their
pockets and slip out of the
shop without
being noticed it's obviously
still uh
bad and it's a crime but it's
not a huge
crime but they piler
something okay but
here when she refers to it in
the book

it's again about these Elgin
marbles
where these uh were pilfered
by the
English uh during some some
war so to be
pilfered means they were
robbed and
stolen and taken away
secretly and then
placed in the museum in in
the British
Museum in London so to pilfer
to to steal
or to take and usually uh
taken without
anybody's noticed notice
sorry next to
keep up so this is a phrasal

verb to
keep up so when you keep
something up
you prevent it from falling
yeah so you
might wear a belt on your
trousers to
keep them up so they don't
fall down
okay you might put a hook on
the wall to
hang a painting or to keep the
painting
up on the wall okay or you
could simply
talk to somebody all night
chitchat
chatting away and you'll keep
them up

means you prevent them from
falling
asleep okay so it has many
many
different uses so to keep up
and what
she does again there when
they're
talking about he Jones when
she was
having this protest about
going to
museums she kept up in
adulthood means
she maintained her protest
against the
museums so she refused to
visit the
museums because she was

supporting the
family tradition because of
the Elgen
marbles okay so she kept up
her protest
against uh the the Elgen
marbles and to
keep up in this instance
means to
maintain or to to sustain the
protest so
to keep up but as I've just
given you
some examples there many
other ways in
which you can use the same
expression to
point out well when you point
out

something you indicate it to
somebody so
if you're standing on the
beach and
you're looking into the ocean
you can
point out a yacht sailing along
the
horizon or you can point out a
particular landmass that
you're looking
at or you can point out a tree
or a
landmark in the distance
where you're
going to walk towards okay
so to point
out means to indicate and in
the book

when we're talking about
point out we're
talking about the husband mr
jones says
to Mrs jones he pointed out
that not
only was the Tower of
London a royal
palace and fortress so he
pointed out he
indicated or he highlighted
the fact
that the uh Tower of London
was not only
a palace and a fortress but it
was also
once the main or state prison
or jail so
to point out to indicate to

highlight so
if you're making a
presentation to your
colleagues you might point
out some key
facts so on page one or slide
one of
your PowerPoint presentation
you might
point out some key facts next
to emerge
so emerge to emerge so when
you emerge
you come from one place into
another so
if you emerge from a building
you might
walk out the front door or the
back door

okay if you emerge from a
cave that
where it's been dark you come
out into
the light the bright light and
you put
your hand over your eyes to
shade your
eyes from the the brightness
of the
reflection of the sun because
you've
been in a dark place for a a
little
while so you emerge from
that okay so
when we look at there in the
book for
the reference to emerge that

when he's
talking Mr Jones is talking to
his wife
she ignores him and she goes
into the
garden shed and she emerges
a few
minutes later with this blue
and white
striped deck chair so she
ignored him
completely went into the
garden shed
came out so she emerged
from the garden
shed with the blue and white
deck chair
to pull out okay when you
pull out

something you remove it
okay you go to
the dentist and you've got a
bad tooth
he said "I'm really really sorry
Harry
i'm going to have to pull out
the tooth
it's really bad." So he extracts
it he
takes an extraction takes the
tooth out
of your mouth so it can be
quite painful
or to pull out or if there's a
rock
concert coming to your uh
city or town
and then one of the key stars

pulls out
of the concert due to illness
so
there'll be an announcement
on the radio
in the newspapers on the
internet
internet to say that such and
such a
star has had to be forced to
pull out of
the concert due to illness or
some other
problem insurance problems
or whatever
the issues were he's had to
pull out so
to to remove himself or to to
stop going

or just to cancel in the book
again when
she's she has taken the deck
chair from
the garden shed she sits on
the deck
chair and from her handbag or
her
shopping bag she pulls out a
guide to
the Tower of London so this
is where she
starts her preparation to get
her
husband prepared for the job
interview
so she pulls out she removes
from the
shopping bag this guide book

that she's
purchased to pull out now
we've got a
next one we've got a
expression
ruthlessness of a gunner
ruthlessness of
a gunner a gunner is
somebody who fires
a gun so if you're a member
of the army
you might be a an artillery
man a gunner
or if you're a member of the
Air Force
you might be a gunner in a
particular
part of the plane might in fact
my

father who flew during the
Second World
War in the Royal Air Force
he was a what
they called a rear gunner so
he used to
lie flat on his stomach at the
very back
of the plane and he would be
operating
the machine gun so he was a
gunner so
here the expression is with the
ruthlessness of a gunner she
started to
fire questions so she wasn't
firing
bullets or ammunition she
was firing

questions d question after
question
after question to her husband
to see
what answers he had and he
had a very
bad IQ as because we read in
the book
that he failed his Olevel
history quite
badly okay so but she with
the
ruthlessness of a gunner was
determined
to get him prepared okay so
ruthlessness
means you take no prisoners
so when
you're ruthless then you are

not
accepting any excuses so she
decided
we're going to prepare you for
this
interview and I'm going to be
ruthless
i'm going to continue asking
and asking
you these questions until you
get them
right so ruthless and again we
have this
the ruthlessness of a gunner to fire
questions so to fire questions
as I said
is one after another repeated
like a a
repeat weapon it just fires you

press
the trigger and bang bang
bang bang bang
repeat repeat repeat repeat so
she was
going to fire questions in
much the same
way as you would fire bullets
from a
rifle repeat one after another
one one
the second the third the fourth
and so
on so the poor man didn't
know what to
do he was strolling up and
down the
garden scratching his head
trying to

figure out the answers to
these
particular questions now
we've got
another expression to cheer
herself up
so when we refer back to the
poor old Mr
jones and his terrible marks in
his O
level O levels are the exams
that young
boys and girls do when
they're around 15
in the in the UK they're called
O levels
and in his particular case he
failed his
history O level quite uh

seriously to
such an extent that the marker
the
examiner for this uh kept a
copy of his
particular exam because she
was so
amused by it that she used it
to cheer
herself up when she had bouts
of
depression so she wasn't so
healthy and
she had problems with um her
mind and
she was depressed from time
to time but
what would cheer her up
which would put

her in a good mood was
reading the
answers that Balthazar Jones
had
submitted in the questions for
his
history O level so when you
cheer
yourself up it means you
make yourself
feel happy so I cheer myself
up by
reading books somebody
other people
cheer themselves up by doing
some
exercise others might cheer
themselves
up by having a glass of wine

so to cheer
yourself up means to put you
in a happy
mood to put you in a a better
mood so
what will cheer you up oh
why don't we
cheer ourselves up and we'll
watch a
funny movie so to cheer
yourselves up to
put yourself or him or herself
in a
better
mood next one quite difficult
so be
careful with the pronunciation
on this
one debilitating bouts

debilitating
bouts debilitating means
something that
continuously gets worse and
worse so if
you have a debilitating illness
it
starts off bad and becomes
more serious
so something
debilitating begins to wear
you down and
gets worse and worse and in
this
expression they say
debilitating bouts
so a bout is something that is
not
permanent but it's a a short

period of
time so this examiner this
person who
had examined Balthasar Jones
history
levels suffered from bouts of
depression
so a bout is a small or short
period of
depression it might last hours
or days
or weeks but it wasn't
permanent so she
had debilitating bouts
meaning bad bouts
that made her feel really bad
so what
she did when she had these
debilitating

bouts of depression she took
out his
answers to his uh history and
it made
her feel a little bit happier
because
they were so stupid perhap
and so badly
wrong okay so debilitating
bouts and
then finally we have this
expression he
paced up and down paced up
and down so
it means he went in one
direction turned
around came back in the other
direction
turned around went up like a

a band
marching up and down like
soldiers going
up and down straight line up
straight
line back up and down so to
pace up and
down doesn't mean to run it
doesn't mean
to walk fast paced at a at a set
step
yeah one two three 4 turn
around one two
three four he paced up and
down if you
watch the football matches
when the
coach for the team paces up
and down the

touch line trying to get
involved in the
match trying to get his players
to to
get involved but he can't do
anything
because he's not on the pitch
so he
paces up and down he walks
up and down
back and forward okay so this
is what we
mean by to pace up and down
okay so
there the expressions and
phrases and
words that I've just taken just
from
those two pages they're very

interesting
they're easy to use to
understand and
you can practice those so let
me go
through them one more time
to stretch to

means to cover to weep to
cry to pile to take to rob to
steal to
keep up means to prevent
somebody from
doing something or to
continue something
to point out to indicate to
somebody to emerge to come
from one room
into another from dark into

the light to
emerge to pull out means to
take out
from your bag or
remove ruthlessness of a
gunner meaning
when you're ruthless you you
don't take
any prisoners you don't make
any excuses
you just do it ruthlessness of a
gunner
to fire questions bang bang
bang bang
bang rapid one after the other
to cheer
herself up to make herself feel
happy
debilitating bouts periods of

depression
debilitating bouts something
wears you
down makes you feel really
bad you know
when you get these headaches
uh
constantly they can be very
debilitating
make you feel unwell and
then finally to
pace up and down.

GLOBAL ENGLISH
PODCASTS