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**Level 3 – 21st August, 2020**

## Transparent toilets are the place to go in Tokyo

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet.html>

Architects in Japan are redesigning the public toilet. They have unveiled a public toilet with transparent walls, until someone locks the door. An organisation called the Nippon Foundation created a project called "The Tokyo Toilet" to make public restrooms more attractive and usable. The idea was to use innovative design to make public toilets more accessible. An official said it wanted people to feel comfortable using public toilets, "and to foster a spirit of hospitality for the next person". World-famous architects such as Tadao Ando and Kengo Kuma participated in the project. In total, 16 top designers came up with toilets that will be dotted around in 17 parks and public spaces in Japan's capital Tokyo.

The Nippon Foundation said it wanted to stop people having a negative image of public toilets. It said many people thought toilets were "dark, dirty, stinky and scary" places. It said people care about if the toilets are clean, and that "no one is secretly waiting inside". The first transparent toilets opened in a park in Tokyo's Shibuya Ward on August the 16th. They immediately became a tourist attraction with many people lining up to take photos of them, and of course to do their business. The toilet walls are transparent - you can see the white toilets and sinks from the outside. However, when the door is locked, the special film and glass walls suddenly become opaque so no one on the outside can see inside.

Sources: <http://www.asahi.com/ajw/articles/13646322>  
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/suzannerowankelleher/2020/08/16/why-tokyos-new-transparent-public-restrooms-are-a-stroke-of-genius>  
<https://archinect.com/news/article/150211751/the-tokyo-toilet-project-pritzker-prize-winners-shigeru-ban-tadao-ando-toyo-ito-and-fumihiko-maki-among-designers-of-new-public-restrooms>

# WARM-UPS

**1. TOILETS:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about toilets. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

architects / public / toilet / transparent / organisation / attractive / spirit / hospitality / negative / image / dark / scary / stinky / tourist / attraction / photos / sinks / opaque

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. DESIGN:** Students A **strongly** believe the design of all public toilets should be very interesting; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. PUBLIC TOILETS:** What is bad about them? How can we improve them? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

|              | Bad Things | Improvements |
|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Colour       |            |              |
| Smell        |            |              |
| Safety       |            |              |
| Sinks        |            |              |
| Facilities   |            |              |
| Availability |            |              |

**5. WALL:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "wall". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

**6. BEST TOILETS:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best toilets at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Airport toilets
- McDonald's toilets
- Park toilets
- School toilets
- Train station toilets
- Street toilets
- Campsite toilets
- Toilets in bars

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 1. architect   | a. The friendly and generous welcome and entertainment of guests, visitors, or strangers.                  |
| 2. unveiled    | b. Showed or announced something publicly for the first time.  |
| 3. transparent | c. Very nice or beautiful to look at.  |
| 4. attractive  | d. A person who is responsible for inventing or creating a particular idea or project.                     |
| 5. innovative  | e. The most important city or town of a country or region.   |
| 6. hospitality | f. Of a material that allows light to pass through so that objects behind can be seen easily; see-through. |
| 7. capital     | g. With new methods or ideas; advanced and original.   |

## Paragraph 2

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| 8. negative            | h. A well known place where many visitors go to look at, visit and take photos.                            |
| 9. stinky              | i. Frightening; causing fear.  |
| 10. scary              | j. A thin layer covering a surface.  |
| 11. tourist attraction | k. Bad or damaging.  |
| 12. sink               | l. Having a strong or unpleasant smell.  |
| 13. film               | m. Not able to be seen through; not transparent.   |
| 14. opaque             | n. A large bowl with a tap where you wash your hands after using the toilet, or where you wash the dishes. |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet.html>

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. Architects in Japan put a veil over some new toilets. **T / F**
- b. The toilet's walls become transparent when someone locks the door. **T / F**
- c. The designers want people to think about the next user of the toilet. **T / F**
- d. Sixteen different designers worked on the new toilets. **T / F**
- e. Many people think public toilets are scary places. **T / F**
- f. Some people worry about people waiting in secret inside public toilets. **T / F**
- g. The new toilets in Tokyo quickly became tourist attractions. **T / F**
- h. The walls of the toilets are made of clear plastic. **T / F**

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. <b>unveiled</b>     | a. nice-looking    |
| 2. <b>created</b>      | b. non-transparent |
| 3. <b>attractive</b>   | c. helpfulness     |
| 4. <b>hospitality</b>  | d. bad             |
| 5. <b>came up with</b> | e. shown           |
| 6. <b>negative</b>     | f. frightening     |
| 7. <b>scary</b>        | g. wash basins     |
| 8. <b>lining up</b>    | h. made            |
| 9. <b>sinks</b>        | i. queuing         |
| 10. <b>opaque</b>      | j. thought of      |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |                                 |                            |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. They have unveiled           | a. attractive and usable   |
| 2. until someone locks          | b. opaque                  |
| 3. make public restrooms more   | c. Tokyo                   |
| 4. foster a spirit              | d. inside                  |
| 5. in Japan's capital           | e. the door                |
| 6. having a negative            | f. attraction              |
| 7. no one is secretly waiting   | g. of hospitality          |
| 8. a tourist                    | h. to take photos          |
| 9. people lining up             | i. a public toilet         |
| 10. glass walls suddenly become | j. image of public toilets |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet.html>

Architects in Japan are (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the public toilet. They have unveiled a public toilet with transparent walls, until someone (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the door. An organisation called the Nippon Foundation created a project called "The Tokyo Toilet" to make public restrooms more (3) \_\_\_\_\_ and usable. The idea was to use innovative design to make public toilets more accessible. An official said it wanted people to (4) \_\_\_\_\_ comfortable using public toilets, "and to foster a (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of hospitality for the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ person". World-famous architects such as Tadao Ando and Kengo Kuma participated in the project. In (7) \_\_\_\_\_, 16 top designers came up with toilets that will be dotted around in 17 parks and public spaces in Japan's (8) \_\_\_\_\_ Tokyo.

*spirit*  
*locks*  
*capital*  
*redesigning*  
*feel*  
*total*  
*attractive*  
*next*

The Nippon Foundation said it wanted to stop people having a (9) \_\_\_\_\_ image of public toilets. It said many people thought toilets were "dark, dirty, (10) \_\_\_\_\_ and scary" places. It said people care about if the toilets are clean, and that "no one is (11) \_\_\_\_\_ waiting inside". The first transparent toilets opened in a park in Tokyo's Shibuya Ward on August the 16th. They (12) \_\_\_\_\_ became a tourist (13) \_\_\_\_\_ with many people lining up to take photos of them, and of course to do their business. The toilet walls are transparent - you can see the white toilets and (14) \_\_\_\_\_ from the outside. However, when the door is (15) \_\_\_\_\_, the special film and glass walls suddenly become (16) \_\_\_\_\_ so no one on the outside can see inside.

*secretly*  
*attraction*  
*locked*  
*negative*  
*opaque*  
*immediately*  
*stinky*  
*sinks*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet.html>

- 1) "The Tokyo Toilet" to make public restrooms more attractive \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. and use able
  - b. and unusable
  - c. and usability
  - d. and usable
- 2) The idea was to use innovative design to make public toilets \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. more access able
  - b. more axe cesspool
  - c. more rack cesspool
  - d. more accessible
- 3) feel comfortable using public toilets, "and to foster \_\_\_\_\_ hospitality"
  - a. as spirit of
  - b. a spirit of
  - c. a split of
  - d. a spirits of
- 4) famous architects such as Tadao Ando and Kengo Kuma participated \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. in the projected
  - b. in the projects
  - c. in the project
  - d. in the projection
- 5) dotted around in 17 parks and public spaces in Japan's \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. capital Tokyo
  - b. capitalist Tokyo
  - c. cap it all Tokyo
  - d. capitalism Tokyo
- 6) The Nippon Foundation said it wanted to stop people having a \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. negatively image
  - b. positive image
  - c. positively image
  - d. negative image
- 7) It said many people thought toilets were "dark, dirty, stinky \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. and scared" places
  - b. and scary" places
  - c. and scare" places
  - d. and scares" places
- 8) people care about if the toilets are clean, and that "no one is \_\_\_\_\_ inside"
  - a. secrecy waiting
  - b. secrete waiting
  - c. secreted weighting
  - d. secretly waiting
- 9) They immediately became a tourist attraction with many people \_\_\_\_\_ take photos
  - a. linen up to
  - b. line in up to
  - c. lie knee up to
  - d. lining up to
- 10) when the door is locked, the special film and glass walls suddenly \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. becomes oblique
  - b. become oh park
  - c. become op park
  - d. become opaque

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet.html>

Architects in Japan (1) \_\_\_\_\_ public toilet. They have unveiled a public toilet with transparent walls, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the door. An organisation called the Nippon Foundation created a project called "The Tokyo Toilet" to make public restrooms more (3) \_\_\_\_\_. The idea was to use innovative design to make public toilets more accessible. An official said it wanted people to (4) \_\_\_\_\_ public toilets, "and to foster a spirit of hospitality for the next person". World-(5) \_\_\_\_\_ as Tadao Ando and Kengo Kuma participated in the project. In total, 16 top designers came up with toilets that will (6) \_\_\_\_\_ in 17 parks and public spaces in Japan's capital Tokyo.

The Nippon Foundation said it wanted to stop people having (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of public toilets. It said many people thought toilets were "(8) \_\_\_\_\_ and scary" places. It said people care about if the toilets are clean, and that "no one (9) \_\_\_\_\_ inside". The first transparent toilets opened in a park in Tokyo's Shibuya Ward on August the 16th. They immediately became (10) \_\_\_\_\_ with many people lining up to take photos of them, and of course to do their business. The toilet walls are transparent - you can see the white (11) \_\_\_\_\_ from the outside. However, when the door is locked, the special film (12) \_\_\_\_\_ suddenly become opaque so no one on the outside can see inside.



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet.html>

1. What did architects in Japan unveil?
2. What is the name of the project mentioned in the article?
3. What did someone want the toilets to foster a spirit of?
4. How many designers worked on the new toilets?
5. How many parks and public spaces will the toilets be put in?
6. What kind of image of toilets does the Nippon Foundation want to stop?
7. What did the foundation say someone might be secretly doing?
8. What did people line up outside the toilets to do?
9. What covers the glass walls?
10. What happens to the walls when the door is locked?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet.html>

- 1) What did architects in Japan unveil?
  - a) a bidet
  - b) a public toilet
  - c) a toilet seat
  - d) a toilet cleaner
- 2) What is the name of the project mentioned in the article?
  - a) The Glass Toilet
  - b) The Japan Toilet
  - c) The Hidden Toilet
  - d) The Tokyo Toilet
- 3) What did someone want the toilets to foster a spirit of?
  - a) hospitality
  - b) cleanliness
  - c) togetherness
  - d) toiletries
- 4) How many designers worked on the new toilets?
  - a) 17
  - b) 15
  - c) 16
  - d) 18
- 5) How many parks and public spaces will the toilets be put in?
  - a) 15
  - b) 17
  - c) 18
  - d) 16
- 6) What kind of image of toilets does the Nippon Foundation want to stop?
  - a) a negative image
  - b) a dark image
  - c) a transparent image
  - d) a scary image
- 7) What did the foundation say someone might be secretly doing?
  - a) cleaning the toilet
  - b) making a mess
  - c) waiting inside
  - d) filming
- 8) What did people line up outside the toilets to do?
  - a) take photos
  - b) wait for autographs
  - c) do a number two
  - d) wash their hands
- 9) What covers the glass walls?
  - a) a special film
  - b) water
  - c) paint
  - d) a kind of mirror
- 10) What happens to the walls when the door is locked?
  - a) they become black
  - b) they become transparent
  - c) they turn to glass
  - d) they become opaque

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet.html>

## **Role A – Park Toilets**

You think park toilets are best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their toilets. Also, tell the others which are the worst of these (and why): McDonald's, school or train station toilets.

## **Role B – McDonald's Toilets**

You think McDonald's are best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their toilets. Also, tell the others which are the worst of these (and why): park toilets, school or train station toilets.

## **Role C – School Toilets**

You think school are best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their toilets. Also, tell the others which are the worst of these (and why): McDonald's, park toilets or train station toilets.

## **Role D – Train Station Toilets**

You think train station toilets are best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their toilets. Also, tell the others which are the worst of these (and why): McDonald's, school or park toilets.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'public' and 'toilet'.

| public | toilet |
|--------|--------|
|        |        |

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• unveiled</li><li>• attractive</li><li>• idea</li><li>• official</li><li>• spirit</li><li>• 17</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•stop</li><li>•stinky</li><li>•first</li><li>•tourist</li><li>•white</li><li>•film</li></ul> |
|---|--|

# PUBLIC TOILETS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet.html>

Write five GOOD questions about public toilets in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

|      | STUDENT 1<br>_____ | STUDENT 2<br>_____ | STUDENT 3<br>_____ |
|------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Q.1. |                    |                    |                    |
| Q.2. |                    |                    |                    |
| Q.3. |                    |                    |                    |
| Q.4. |                    |                    |                    |
| Q.5. |                    |                    |                    |

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

# PUBLIC TOILETS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'public'?
3. What are public toilets like in your country?
4. What do you think of public toilets?
5. Should public toilets be well designed?
6. What do you think of a toilet with transparent walls?
7. Should cities spend money on designing toilets?
8. How comfortable are you in public toilets?
9. How can a public toilet "foster a spirit of hospitality"?
10. Are public toilets better than those in chain restaurants?

*Transparent toilets are the place to go in Tokyo – 21st August, 2020*  
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# PUBLIC TOILETS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'toilet'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Why do public toilets have a negative image?
15. How scary do you think public toilets are?
16. Would you take a photo of the transparent toilets?
17. How can we make public toilets better?
18. Should more money be spent on toilets for women?
19. Would you like to use the transparent toilet?
20. What questions would you like to ask the designers?

## DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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## DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet.html>

Architects in Japan are redesigning the public toilet. They have (1) \_\_\_\_\_ a public toilet with transparent walls, until someone (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the door. An organisation called the Nippon Foundation created a project called "The Tokyo Toilet" to make public restrooms more attractive and usable. The idea was (3) \_\_\_\_\_ use innovative design to make public toilets more accessible. An official said it wanted people to feel comfortable using public toilets, "and to foster a (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of hospitality for the next person". World-famous architects such (5) \_\_\_\_\_ Tadao Ando and Kengo Kuma participated in the project. In total, 16 top designers came up with toilets that will be (6) \_\_\_\_\_ around in 17 parks and public spaces in Japan's capital Tokyo.

The Nippon Foundation said it wanted to stop people having a (7) \_\_\_\_\_ image of public toilets. It said many people thought toilets were "dark, dirty, (8) \_\_\_\_\_ and scary" places. It said people care about if the toilets are clean, and that "no one is (9) \_\_\_\_\_ waiting inside". The first transparent toilets opened in a park in Tokyo's Shibuya Ward on August the 16th. They immediately became a tourist attraction with many people lining (10) \_\_\_\_\_ to take photos of them, and of course to do their business. The toilet walls are transparent - you can see the white toilets and sinks from the outside. (11) \_\_\_\_\_, when the door is locked, the special film and glass walls suddenly become (12) \_\_\_\_\_ so no one on the outside can see inside.

## Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- |     |                |              |                  |               |
|-----|----------------|--------------|------------------|---------------|
| 1.  | (a) wailed     | (b) unveiled | (c) nailed       | (d) veiled    |
| 2.  | (a) lockers    | (b) locks    | (c) lockets      | (d) likens    |
| 3.  | (a) of         | (b) by       | (c) for          | (d) to        |
| 4.  | (a) ghost      | (b) spirit   | (c) poltergeist  | (d) sprite    |
| 5.  | (a) this       | (b) that's   | (c) has          | (d) as        |
| 6.  | (a) splattered | (b) spitted  | (c) dotted       | (d) pitted    |
| 7.  | (a) negative   | (b) negate   | (c) negatives    | (d) negotiate |
| 8.  | (a) slinky     | (b) swanky   | (c) stinky       | (d) shiny     |
| 9.  | (a) risky      | (b) frighten | (c) tension      | (d) secretly  |
| 10. | (a) up         | (b) down     | (c) on           | (d) under     |
| 11. | (a) However    | (b) Although | (c) Nevertheless | (d) Secondly  |
| 12. | (a) opaque     | (b) fake     | (c) oblique      | (d) risqué    |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. They have ulviende a public toilet
2. trnntsraeap walls
3. make public restrooms more vertcitata
4. use nitnaeivvo design
5. foster a spirit of piohiatlyts
6. public spaces in Japan's lapitca Tokyo

## Paragraph 2

7. people having a igevntea image
8. dark, dirty, stinky and yscra
9. immediately became a tourist iaatonrttc
10. people innlgi up to take photos
11. the iacpsel film and glass walls
12. suddenly become qpaoue

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) waiting inside". The first transparent toilets opened in a park in Tokyo's Shibuya Ward on
- ( ) toilets were "dark, dirty, stinky and scary" places. It said people care about if the toilets are clean, and that "no one is secretly
- ( ) participated in the project. In total, 16 top designers came up with toilets that will be dotted
- ( ) design to make public toilets more accessible. An official said it wanted people to feel comfortable using public toilets, "and to foster a spirit
- ( ) August the 16th. They immediately became a tourist attraction with many people lining
- ( ) up to take photos of them, and of course to do their business. The toilet walls are transparent - you can
- ( ) The Nippon Foundation said it wanted to stop people having a negative image of public toilets. It said many people thought
- ( ) walls, until someone locks the door. An organisation called the Nippon Foundation created
- ( ) of hospitality for the next person". World-famous architects such as Tadao Ando and Kengo Kuma
- ( ) see the white toilets and sinks from the outside. However, when the door is
- ( ) locked, the special film and glass walls suddenly become opaque so no one on the outside can see inside.
- ( ) a project called "The Tokyo Toilet" to make public restrooms more attractive and usable. The idea was to use innovative
- ( **1** ) Architects in Japan are redesigning the public toilet. They have unveiled a public toilet with transparent
- ( ) around in 17 parks and public spaces in Japan's capital Tokyo.

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet.html>

1. transparent with toilet have They a walls . unveiled
2. restrooms Make more and usable . public attractive
3. idea use The was innovative to design
4. people public to Get toilets . comfortable feel using
5. in be Toilets dotted around will that parks .
6. toilets . Stop public images of having negative people
7. were people many dark . toilets said It thought
8. park . The toilets in first transparent opened a
9. lining take of them . photos up to People
10. special opaque . become walls glass The suddenly

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet.html>

Architects in Japan are redesigning the *publicly* / *public* toilet. They have unveiled a public toilet with transparent walls, until someone *locking* / *locks* the door. An organisation called the Nippon Foundation *creation* / *created* a project called "The Tokyo Toilet" to make public restrooms more *attraction* / *attractive* and usable. The idea was to *use* / *useful* innovative design to make public toilets more accessible. An official said it wanted people *to* / *for* feel comfortable using public toilets, "and to *foster* / *faster* a spirit of hospitality for the next person". World-famous architects such *as* / *has* Tadao Ando and Kengo Kuma participated *in* / *as* the project. In total, 16 top designers came up with toilets that will be *dot* / *dotted* around in 17 parks and public spaces in Japan's capital Tokyo.

The Nippon Foundation said it *wanting* / *wanted* to stop people having a negative image *on* / *of* public toilets. It said many people thought toilets were "dark, dirty, *stinky* / *stink* and scary" places. It said people care about if the toilets are clean, and that "no one is *secrecy* / *secretly* waiting inside". The first transparent toilets opened *in* / *on* a park in Tokyo's Shibuya Ward on August the 16th. They *immediately* / *immediate* became a tourist *attraction* / *attractive* with many people lining up to take photos of them, and of *cause* / *course* to do their business. The toilet walls are transparent - you can see the white toilets and *stinks* / *sinks* from the outside. However, when the door is locked, the special film and glass walls suddenly become opaque so no one on the *outing* / *outside* can see inside.

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet.html>

A r c h\_t\_c t s \_n J\_p\_n \_r\_ r\_d\_s\_g n\_n g t h\_ p\_b\_l\_c  
t\_\_l\_t. T h\_y h\_v\_\_n v\_\_l\_d \_ p\_b\_l\_c t\_\_l\_t w\_t  
h t\_r\_n\_s\_p\_r\_n\_t w\_l\_l\_s, \_n\_t\_l s\_m\_\_n\_ l\_c\_k\_s t  
h\_ d\_\_r. A n \_r\_g\_n\_s\_t\_\_n c\_l\_l\_d t h\_ N\_p\_p\_n  
F\_\_n\_d\_t\_\_n c\_r\_\_t\_d \_ p\_r\_j\_c\_t c\_l\_l\_d " T h\_ T\_k  
y\_ T\_\_l\_t " t\_ m\_k\_ p\_b\_l\_c r\_s\_t\_r\_\_m\_s m\_r\_\_t\_t  
r\_c\_t\_v\_ \_n\_d \_s\_b\_l\_. T h\_ \_d\_\_ w\_s t\_ \_s\_ \_n  
n\_v\_t\_v\_ d\_s\_g\_n t\_ m\_k\_ p\_b\_l\_c t\_\_l\_t\_s m\_r\_\_c  
c\_s\_s\_b\_l\_. A n \_f\_f\_c\_\_l s\_\_d \_t w\_n\_t\_d p\_\_p\_l\_  
t\_ f\_\_l c\_m\_f\_r\_t\_b\_l\_s\_n\_g p\_b\_l\_c t\_\_l\_t\_s, " \_n\_d  
t\_ f\_s\_t\_r \_ s\_p\_r\_t \_f h\_s\_p\_t\_l\_t\_y f\_r t h\_ n\_x\_t  
p\_r\_s\_n ". W\_r\_l\_d - f\_m\_\_s \_r\_c\_h\_t\_c\_t\_s s\_c\_h \_s  
T\_d\_\_ A\_n\_d \_n\_d K\_n\_g\_ K\_m\_ p\_r\_t\_c\_p\_t\_d \_n t h\_  
p\_r\_j\_c\_t. I\_n t\_t\_l, 16 t\_p d\_s\_g\_n\_r\_s c\_m\_\_p  
w\_t\_h t\_\_l\_t\_s t\_h\_t w\_l\_l b\_ d\_t\_t\_d \_r\_\_n\_d \_n 1  
7 p\_r\_k\_s \_n\_d p\_b\_l\_c s\_p\_c\_s \_n J\_p\_n's c\_p\_t\_l  
T\_k\_y\_.

T h\_ N\_p\_p\_n F\_\_n\_d\_t\_\_n s\_\_d \_t w\_n\_t\_d t\_ s  
t\_p p\_\_p\_l\_ h\_v\_n\_g \_n\_g\_t\_v\_ \_m\_g\_ \_f p\_b\_l\_c t\_\_  
l\_t\_s. I\_t s\_\_d m\_n\_y p\_\_p\_l\_ t h\_\_g\_h\_t t\_\_l\_t\_s  
w\_r\_ " d\_r\_k, d\_r\_t\_y, s\_t\_n\_k\_y \_n\_d s\_c\_r\_y " p  
l\_c\_s. I\_t s\_\_d p\_\_p\_l\_ c\_r\_ \_b\_\_t \_f t h\_ t\_\_l\_t  
s \_r\_ c\_l\_\_n, \_n\_d t\_h\_t " n\_\_n\_\_s s\_c\_r\_t\_l\_y w\_\_  
t\_n\_g \_n\_s\_d ". T h\_ f\_r\_s\_t t\_r\_n\_s\_p\_r\_n\_t t\_\_l\_t\_s  
\_p\_n\_d \_n \_p\_r\_k \_n T\_k\_y\_'s S\_h\_b\_y\_ W\_r\_d \_n  
A\_g\_s\_t t h\_ 16\_t\_h. T h\_y \_m\_m\_d\_\_t\_l\_y b\_c\_m\_ \_  
t\_\_r\_s\_t \_t\_t\_r\_c\_t\_\_n w\_t\_h m\_n\_y p\_\_p\_l\_ l\_n\_n\_g  
\_p t\_ t\_k\_ p\_h\_t\_s \_f t h\_m, \_n\_d \_f c\_\_r\_s\_ t\_  
d\_ t h\_\_r b\_s\_n\_s\_s. T h\_ t\_\_l\_t w\_l\_l\_s \_r\_ t\_r\_n\_s  
p\_r\_n\_t - y\_\_ c\_n s\_\_ t h\_ w\_h\_t\_ t\_\_l\_t\_s \_n\_d  
s\_n\_k\_s f\_r\_m t h\_ \_\_t\_s\_d\_. H\_w\_v\_r, w\_h\_n t h\_  
d\_\_r \_s l\_c\_k\_d, t h\_ s\_p\_c\_\_l f\_l\_m \_n\_d g\_l\_s\_s  
w\_l\_l\_s s\_d\_d\_n\_l\_y b\_c\_m\_ \_p\_q\_\_ s\_ n\_ \_n\_ \_n t h\_  
\_\_t\_s\_d\_ c\_n s\_\_ \_n\_s\_d\_.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet.html>

architects in japan are redesigning the public toilet they have unveiled a public toilet with transparent walls until someone locks the door an organisation called the nippon foundation created a project called the tokyo toilet to make public restrooms more attractive and usable the idea was to use innovative design to make public toilets more accessible an official said it wanted people to feel comfortable using public toilets and to foster a spirit of hospitality for the next person worldfamous architects such as tadao ando and kengo kuma participated in the project in total 16 top designers came up with toilets that will be dotted around in 17 parks and public spaces in japans capital tokyo

the nippon foundation said it wanted to stop people having a negative image of public toilets it said many people thought toilets were dark dirty stinky and scary places it said people care about if the toilets are clean and that no one is secretly waiting inside the first transparent toilets opened in a park in tokyos shibuya ward on august the 16th they immediately became a tourist attraction with many people lining up to take photos of them and of course to do their business the toilet walls are transparent you can see the white toilets and sinks from the outside however when the door is locked the special film and glass walls suddenly become opaque so no one on the outside can see inside

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet.html>

Architects in Japan are redesigning the public toilet. They have unveiled a public toilet with transparent walls, until someone locks the door. An organisation called the Nippon Foundation created a project called "The Tokyo Toilet" to make public restrooms more attractive and usable. The idea was to use innovative design to make public toilets more accessible. An official said it wanted people to feel comfortable using public toilets, "and to foster a spirit of hospitality for the next person". World-famous architect such as Tadao Ando and Kengo Kuma participated in the project. In total, 16 top designers came up with toilets that will be dotted around in 17 parks and public spaces in Japan's capital Tokyo. The Nippon Foundation said it wanted to stop people having a negative image of public toilets. It said many people thought toilets were "dark, dirty, stinky and scary" places. It said people care about if the toilets are clean, and that "no one is secretly waiting inside". The first transparent toilets opened in a park in Tokyo's Shibuya Ward on August the 16th. They immediately became a tourist attraction with many people lining up to take photos of them, and of course to do their business. The toilet walls are transparent - you can see the white toilets and sinks from the outside. However, when the door is locked, the special film and glass wall suddenly become opaque so no one on the outside can see inside.







# HOMework

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. PUBLIC TOILETS:** Make a poster about public toilets. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. BEAUTIFUL:** Write a magazine article about making all cities and towns to make public toilets very beautiful. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on public toilets. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to make public toilets better. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. d    2. b    3. f    4. c    5. g    6. a    7. e  
8. k    9. l    10. i    11. h    12. n    13. j    14. m

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- a F    b F    c T    d T    e T    f T    g T    h F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

|      |      |      |      |       |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. e | 2. h | 3. a | 4. c | 5. j  |
| 6. d | 7. f | 8. i | 9. g | 10. b |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. A public toilet
2. The Tokyo Toilet
3. Hospitality
4. Sixteen
5. Seventeen
6. A negative image
7. Waiting inside
8. Take photos
9. A special film
10. They become opaque

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. They have unveiled a toilet with transparent walls.
2. Make public restrooms more attractive and usable.
3. The idea was to use innovative design
4. Get people to feel comfortable using public toilets.
5. Toilets that will be dotted around in parks.
6. Stop people having negative images of public toilets.
7. It said many people thought toilets were dark.
8. The first transparent toilets opened in a park.
9. People lining up to take photos of them.
10. The special glass walls suddenly become opaque.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. b    2. d    3. a    4. c    5. b    6. a    7. c    8. a    9. a    10. d

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)