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Level 2 – 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-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet-2.html>

Architects in Japan made a new public toilet. It has transparent walls. When someone locks the door it is not see-through. The Nippon Foundation started a project called "The Tokyo Toilet". It wants to design new public restrooms that are more attractive and accessible. An official said he wanted people to feel comfortable using public toilets and for people to think about the next person. World-famous architects participated in the project. In total, 16 top designers made new toilet designs. These will be dotted around in 17 parks and public spaces in Japan's capital Tokyo.

The Nippon Foundation wants to change the negative image of public toilets. Many people think toilets are "dark, dirty, stinky and scary" places. People want toilets that are clean, where "no one is secretly waiting inside". The first transparent toilets opened in a Tokyo park this week. They became a tourist attraction. Many people waited to take photos of them, and of course... go. People can see the toilets and sinks from the outside. However, when the door is locked, the special glass walls suddenly become dark, 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>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Architects | a. around |
| 2. It has transparent | b. capital Tokyo |
| 3. When someone locks | c. restrooms |
| 4. It wants to design new public | d. accessible |
| 5. more attractive and | e. walls |
| 6. think about the next | f. in Japan |
| 7. dotted | g. person |
| 8. in Japan's | h. the door |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. change the negative | a. see inside |
| 2. dark, dirty, stinky and | b. waiting inside |
| 3. People want toilets that | c. can see inside |
| 4. no one is secretly | d. locked |
| 5. They became a tourist | e. are clean |
| 6. when the door is | f. image of public toilets |
| 7. no one on the outside can | g. attraction |
| 8. no one on the outside | h. scary places |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet-2.html>

Architects in Japan made a (1) _____. It has transparent walls. When someone (2) _____ it is not see-through. The Nippon Foundation started a project called "The Tokyo Toilet". It wants to design (3) _____ that are more attractive and accessible. An official said he wanted people (4) _____ using public toilets and for people to think about the next person. World-famous (5) _____ the project. In total, 16 top designers made new toilet designs. These will (6) _____ in 17 parks and public spaces in Japan's capital Tokyo.

The Nippon Foundation wants to change (7) _____ of public toilets. Many people think toilets are "(8) _____ and scary" places. People want toilets that are clean, where "no one (9) _____ inside". The first transparent toilets opened in a Tokyo park this week. They became (10) _____. Many people waited to take photos of them, and of course... go. People can see the (11) _____ from the outside. However, when the door is locked, the special glass walls (12) _____, 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-2.html>

Architects in Japan made a new public toilet. It has transparent walls. When someone locks the door it is not see-through. The Nippon Foundation started a project called "The Tokyo Toilet". It wants to design new public restrooms that are more attractive and accessible. An official said he wanted people to feel comfortable using public toilets and for people to think about the next person. World-famous architects participated in the project. In total, 16 top designers made new toilet designs. These will be dotted around in 17 parks and public spaces in Japan's capital Tokyo. The Nippon Foundation wants to change the negative image of public toilets. Many people think toilets are "dark, dirty, stinky and scary" places. People want toilets that are clean, where "no one is secretly waiting inside". The first transparent toilets opened in a Tokyo park this week. They became a tourist attraction. Many people waited to take photos of them, and of course... go. People can see the toilets and sinks from the outside. However, when the door is locked, the special glass wall suddenly becomes dark, so no one on the outside can see inside.

PUBLIC TOILETS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet-4.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 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
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.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet-2.html>

Write about **public toilets** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner’s paper.
