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**Level 1 – 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-1.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet-1.html>

There are new public toilets in Japan. They have transparent walls. When someone locks the door, people can no longer see in. The project is called "The Tokyo Toilet". Designers will make new toilets that are nicer and easier to use. People must feel comfortable using public toilets. They must also think about the next user. Sixteen world-famous designers joined the project. Their toilets will be in 17 parks and public spaces in Japan's capital city Tokyo.

The designers want to change the negative image of public toilets. Many people think they are "dark, dirty, stinky and scary" places. People want toilets that are clean and safe. The first toilets opened in a Tokyo park this week. They became a tourist attraction. Many people took photos of them. People can see the toilets and sinks from the outside. 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-1.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                               |                         |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. When someone locks         | a. city Tokyo           |
| 2. people can no              | b. easier to use        |
| 3. toilets that are nicer and | c. user                 |
| 4. feel comfortable           | d. in 17 parks          |
| 5. think about the next       | e. longer see in        |
| 6. world-famous designers     | f. using public toilets |
| 7. toilets will be            | g. joined the project   |
| 8. in Japan's capital         | h. the door             |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                               |                            |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. change the negative        | a. attraction              |
| 2. toilets that are clean     | b. dark                    |
| 3. They became a tourist      | c. and sinks               |
| 4. People can see the toilets | d. see inside              |
| 5. When the door              | e. and safe                |
| 6. special glass              | f. is locked               |
| 7. suddenly become            | g. image of public toilets |
| 8. no one on the outside can  | h. walls                   |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet-1.html>

There are new public toilets in Japan. (1) \_\_\_\_\_ walls. When someone (2) \_\_\_\_\_, people can no longer see in. The project is called "The Tokyo Toilet". Designers will make new toilets that are (3) \_\_\_\_\_ to use. People must (4) \_\_\_\_\_ public toilets. They must also think about the next user. Sixteen world-famous designers (5) \_\_\_\_\_. Their toilets will be in 17 parks and public spaces in Japan's (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

The designers want to change (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of public toilets. Many people think they are "(8) \_\_\_\_\_ and scary" places. People want toilets that are clean and safe. The (9) \_\_\_\_\_ in a Tokyo park this week. They became (10) \_\_\_\_\_. Many people took photos of them. People can see the toilets (11) \_\_\_\_\_ the outside. When the door is locked, the special glass walls suddenly become dark, so (12) \_\_\_\_\_ the outside can see inside.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200821-the-tokyo-toilet-1.html>

There are new public toilets in Japan. They have transparent walls. When someone locks the door, people can no longer see in. The project is called "The Tokyo Toilet". Designers will make new toilets that are nicer and easier to use. People must feel comfortable using public toilets. They must also think about the next user. Sixteen world-famous designers joined the project. Their toilets will be in 17 parks and public spaces in Japan's capital city Tokyo. The designers want to change the negative image of public toilets. Many people think they are "dark, dirty, stinky and scary" places. People want toilets that are clean and safe. The first toilets opened in a Tokyo park this week. They became a tourist attraction. Many people took photos of them. People can see the toilets and sinks from the outside. 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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More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

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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) \_\_\_\_\_

