

Activity 1

With your partner make a list of all the things you can find in a bathroom.

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Activity 2

Decide which of the following words are NOT euphemisms for 'the toilet' in British English.

the little boy's/girl's room the powder room the box
the smallest room the cloakroom
the throne the loo the lavatory the ladies'
the seat the gents' the bathroom
the washroom the bog the john

Activity 3

Decide if the following statements are true or false.

1. 2.6 billion people in the world have no toilet at home.
2. Nearly 40% of the world's population lack access to a proper toilet.
3. Over 60% of people in Africa do not have access to a proper toilet.
4. Over 100 million people in Latin America do not have a toilet.
5. 2009 will be the 'International Year of Sanitation'.

Activity 4

Use the following questions to start a conversation with your partner.

1. State-of-the-art loos can greet you, play music, massage your buttocks with sprays of water and collect samples of your urine for analysis – the information being sent to a doctor on the Internet via a mobile phone device installed in the toilet. What are the advantages and disadvantages of technological features like this being included in toilets?
2. What other devices would you like to have installed in future loos?
3. What are the main differences between toilets in your country and those in other countries?
4. How do you think public conveniences could be improved?
5. Should people have to pay to use a public convenience or should it be free?
6. What do you think the penalty should be for urinating in public?
7. What are the main advantages and disadvantages of squat toilets?
8. Do you think having access to a real toilet is a basic human right?
9. Imagine a world without loos. How would life be different without toilets?
10. Have you ever dropped anything you value (e.g. a ring) down the toilet? What did you do?

Activity 5

Go to **EnglishClub.com** and click on the 'TP Homework' icon. Use the information you find there to answer the questions below.

1. Which queen is mentioned in the TP Homework?
2. Who made the first porcelain toilet?
3. What is the answer to the Quick Quiz?

Activity 6

**'Having access to a real toilet is as important as having
sufficient food to eat.'**

If you would like to express your opinion on this subject go to **EnglishClub.com** and click on the 'TP Discussion' icon to take part in the forum discussion there.

**N.B. Netiquette! PLEASE CHANGE THE DEFAULT SUBJECT LINE TO INDICATE THE
OPINIONS IN YOUR POST BECAUSE IN A BUSY THREAD IT HELPS PEOPLE DECIDE
WHICH POSTS TO READ!**

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