



Vocabulary: toilets 词汇: 厕所

When you've got to **go**, you've got to go. At least that's the old saying! It refers to the often inconvenient need for a person to visit the **toilet**. It can happen to us all. There you are, out and about - when suddenly your **bladder** informs you that you need to **spend a penny**. The logical thing to do is **tie a knot in it** until you get to your destination, but what if you're **busting**? That's when you head straight to the nearest **public lavatory**. But in the UK, that might prove tough.

Public **loos** in the UK appear to be **going down the toilet**. At least 673 public **restrooms** across the UK have not been maintained by their councils since 2010, according to figures obtained by the BBC under the Freedom of Information Act. That means there are 13% fewer places where a person can **have a tinkle**. Why is this?

It's a combination of two factors. Councils in the UK are facing enormous pressure to reduce spending. By 2020, they will have experienced a 54% reduction in funding from central government, according to the UK's Local Government Association. Secondly, there is no legal requirement for a local authority to provide a location to **relieve yourself**. As a result, toilet upkeep often gets '**flushed**' to save money. Many councils have handed over the running of some toilets to parish councils, private companies or community groups.

Councils have a 'moral responsibility' to provide access to public toilets, Raymond Martin of the British Toilet Association told the BBC. And it would seem that they know it, too. Despite closures, many councils have backed schemes to allow the public to use private business facilities to **do their business**. The City of London has run a community toilet scheme since 2012, giving the public free access to their toilets during trading hours, and Derry City and Strabane District Council's Community Toilet Scheme offers businesses in their remit a financial incentive to allow the public to **powder their noses**. In addition, Network Rail, owner and operator of the railway infrastructure in Britain, has plans **in the pipeline** to scrap entry fees at all of its station toilets from 2019.

So it seems all hope is not lost. Despite the fact that council-run public toilet numbers are down, there are alternatives available. Rather than having to **cross your legs**, look around. You can always find somewhere that will let you **polish the porcelain**.

词汇表

go	上厕所（口语）
toilet	卫生间
bladder	膀胱
spend a penny	去卫生间方便一下
tie a knot in it	忍着（口语）
busting	急着想上厕所
public lavatory	公共卫生间
loo	厕所（口语）
go down the toilet	打水漂，毁了（此处是双关用法）
restroom	公共洗手间
have a tinkle	小便（儿童用语）
relieve yourself	解手（礼貌说法）
flush	付诸东流，抛弃
do your business	这里指上厕所
powder your nose	如厕（委婉说法）
in the pipeline	在酝酿中，在筹备中
cross your legs	（因憋着想上厕所而）交叉双腿
polish the porcelain	上厕所

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. How many public toilets haven't been looked after since 2010?
2. True or false: *All toilet closures across the country have been the same.*
3. What does Raymond Martin say about UK councils' responsibility to provide toilets?
4. How much will Network Rail charge for the public to use their toilets from 2019?
5. Which word in the text means 'the area an organisation has authority over'?

2. 请在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. I'm sorry, sweetie. There aren't any toilets near here. You'll have to _____.

go	spend a penny	tie a knot in it	relieve yourself
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2. Excuse me, I'm not a customer, but could I please use your _____?

public lavatory	porcelain	loo	pipeline
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3. Urine is produced by the kidneys and stored in the _____.

bladder	toilet	loo	legs
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4. The new business development is _____ and expected to be finished soon.

spend a penny	down the toilet	powder your nose	in the pipeline
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5. Before we go can I just nip to the loo? I need to _____.

spend a penny	relieve yourself	power my nose	poke the porcelain
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答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. How many public toilets haven't been looked after since 2010?

At least 673 public restrooms across the UK have not been maintained by their councils since 2010.

2. True or false: *All toilet closures across the country have been the same.*

False. There are regional variations in closures.

3. What does Raymond Martin say about UK councils' responsibility to provide toilets?

Raymond Martin says that councils have a "moral responsibility" to provide access to public toilets.

4. How much will Network Rail charge for the public to use their toilets from 2019?

Nothing. Toilets will be free to use.

5. Which word in the text means 'the area an organisation has authority over'?

Remit. Derry City and Strabane District Council's Community Toilet Scheme offers businesses in their remit a financial incentive to allow the public to powder their noses.

6. 请在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. I'm sorry, sweetie. There aren't any toilets near here. You'll have to **tie a knot in it**.

2. Excuse me, I'm not a customer, but could I please use your **loo**?

3. Urine is produced by the kidneys and stored in the **bladder**.

4. The new business development is **in the pipeline** and expected to be finished soon.

5. Before we go can I just nip to the loo? I need to **spend a penny**.