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Level 4 – 29th January 2024

Closing toilet-seat lids may not stop spread of germs

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240129-toilet-lids-4.html>

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Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240129-toilet-lids-4.html>

A recent study says putting the toilet lid down may not stop the spread of germs. Researchers did research on the aerial activity of germs after a toilet is flushed. The researchers said there was little difference in how germs spread, regardless of whether the lid was up or down. A researcher said: "All that air when you flush goes somewhere, and it carries the viruses that are in the toilet bowl out of it." He said a flush spreads germs to nearby areas.

Researchers tested the spread of harmless germs in two bathrooms. They flushed one toilet with the lid up, and another with the lid down. They swabbed the surfaces in the toilet, but found no big differences in the quantity of germs in the two bathrooms. They said their results show that putting the lid down before flushing does not cut the risk of spreading germs. They recommended disinfecting all surfaces after flushing to reduce germs.

Sources: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/health/2024/01/25/does-it-matter-if-you-flush-with-toilet-lid-up-or-down-not-really/72321820007/>
<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-13011553/Does-flushing-toilet-lid-really-stop-germs-spewing-bathroom-study-says-no.html>
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/brucelee/2024/01/26/closing-toilet-lids-before-flushing-may-not-prevent-spread-of-viruses>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240129-toilet-lids-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. A recent | a. goes somewhere |
| 2. putting the toilet | b. of germs |
| 3. the aerial activity | c. how germs spread |
| 4. there was little difference in | d. to nearby areas |
| 5. whether the lid | e. the toilet bowl |
| 6. All that air when you flush | f. study |
| 7. viruses that are in | g. was up or down |
| 8. a flush spreads germs | h. lid down |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Researchers tested the spread | a. all surfaces |
| 2. They flushed | b. in the toilet |
| 3. They swabbed the surfaces | c. flushing |
| 4. found no big | d. one toilet |
| 5. the quantity of | e. differences |
| 6. putting the lid down before | f. of harmless germs |
| 7. cut the risk | g. germs |
| 8. They recommended disinfecting | h. of spreading germs |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240129-toilet-lids-4.html>

(1) _____ says putting the toilet lid down may not stop the spread of germs. Researchers did research (2) _____ activity of germs after a toilet is flushed. The researchers said there was little (3) _____ germs spread, regardless of (4) _____ was up or down. A researcher said: "All that air when you flush goes somewhere, and it carries the viruses that are in (5) _____ out of it." He said a flush spreads germs (6) _____.

Researchers tested the spread of (7) _____ two bathrooms. They flushed one toilet with (8) _____, and another with the lid down. They (9) _____ in the toilet, but found no big differences in (10) _____ germs in the two bathrooms. They said their results show that putting the lid down before flushing does not (11) _____ of spreading germs. They recommended disinfecting all (12) _____ to reduce germs.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240129-toilet-lids-4.html>

A recent study says putting the toilet lid down may not stop the spread of germs. Researchers did research on the aerial activity of germs after a toilet is flushed. The researchers said there was little difference in how germs spread, regardless of whether the lid was up or down. A researcher said: "All that air when you flush goes somewhere, and it carries the viruses that are in the toilet bowl out of it." He said a flush spreads germs to nearby areas. A researcher tested the spread of harmless germs in two bathrooms. They flushed one toilet with the lid up, and another with the lid down. They swabbed the surfaces in the toilet, but found no big differences in the quantity of germs in the two bathrooms. They said their results show that putting the lid down before flushing does not cut the risk of spreading germs. They recommended disinfecting all surfaces after flushing to reduce germs.

TOILET LIDS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240129-toilet-lids-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about toilet lids 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) _____

