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Toilet Manners 上厕所

Helen: Hello. Welcome to BBC Learning English. I'm Helen.

Li: 我是杨莉大家好。欢迎收听英国问答 **Ask About Britain**, 我们在这个节目中专门回答有关英国文化习俗的各种提问。

Helen: The good thing about doing this programme is that you never know what kind of question you might get.

Li: 没错，时不时是地会受到一些特有趣的问题，就像今天来自张益诗听友的提问。

Insert

My name is Zhang Yishi (张益诗). I'm studying in Sichuan University for Nationalities. My question is how can I express politely my wish to go to the toilet? Thanks a lot.

Helen: Yishi would like to know, when people need to use the toilet, how can they express this politely and without causing embarrassment?

Li: 我觉得这问题非常实用，问的是想要去洗手间的时候，我们应该怎样礼貌的表达自己的意向？

Helen: Everyone has to use the bathroom every day, so it's good to know what to say or do in these situations.

Li: 首先我们先来熟悉一下洗手间和厕所在英语里都有些说法。

Helen: The common ones we use are toilet.

Li: 厕所 toilet.

Helen: Bathroom.

Li: 浴室获洗澡间 bathroom.

Helen: Lavatory.

Li: 盥洗室 lavatory.

Helen: Washroom.

Li: 洗手间 washroom.

Helen: And loo, which is an informal expression for toilet in the UK.

Li: Loo 这是厕所的通俗说法，在英国很普遍。

Helen: Now let's hear what British people would say to others to let them know they need to use the toilet?

Insert

You can just say would you excuse me for one moment? Everything else is unsaid.

I would just say, would you just excuse me for one minute.

I'd just say, excuse me and I'd probably pretend that I had a message on my phone.

Some people would say, I'm going to powder my nose, but I think that's a bit pretentious and I wouldn't say that.

Li: 最普遍的说法是 **Would you excuse me for one moment.** 抱歉我要出去一会儿。这也是非常简单的一句话。

Helen: And this young man says:

Insert

You can just say, would you excuse me for one moment? Everything else is unsaid.

Li: 其他的就不用提了 **everything else is unsaid** 不言而喻。另一位先生说他会假装需要接个电话。

Insert

I'd just say, excuse me and I'd probably pretend that I had a message on my phone.

Helen: You can also say, "would you excuse me for one minute", which is the same as one moment.

Insert

I would just say would you excuse me for one minute.

Li: 还有一位女士说如果你是女孩，你也可以说 **I'm going to powder my nose**, 在鼻子上扑点粉，意思就是我需要去化妆一下。

Helen: But she wouldn't say it herself as she feels it's a bit pretentious.

Li: Pretentious 做作的，不自然。

Insert

Some people would say I'm going to powder my nose, but I think that's a bit pretentious and I wouldn't say that.

Helen: Now let's move on to the subject of toilet manners.

Li: Toilet manners? 使用厕所时的礼仪? I didn't know they existed.

Helen: Well, there are certain things people care about when using washroom facilities and it's good to know about them.

Li: For example?

Insert

Washing your hands, make sure you wash your hands before and after you go to the toilet, because of hygiene. Some people forget to wash their hands and that's how germs are generated and so forth, and some people these days don't realise that.

Li: 这位先生认为洗手是关键。

Helen: Make sure you wash your hands before and after you use the toilet.

Li: Before and after, 上厕所之前和之后都要好好的洗手。

Helen: Hygiene is important, if we don't wash our hands properly, we could be spreading germs everywhere and causing health risks.

Li: 卫生 hygiene, 不洗手会造成病菌的传播, 细菌 germs.

Helen: We all know why it's important to wash our hands after using the loo, but not everyone seems to remember to do it.

Li: I never forget this one. 还有其提示吗?

Insert

In other people's houses, to leave the bathroom as you found it. If you are a boy, to pull the seat back down, and flush.

Helen: That's Tara. She says we should leave the bathroom as we found it. That means to keep it clean, clean up any mess we made.

Li: 如果用别人家的厕所时, 需要注意保持清洁。

Helen: She also feels that boys or men should pull the toilet seat back down after they've used it.

Li: 男孩子们需要注意, 用完厕所请把马桶垫圈 toilet seat 和盖子 lid 放下来。

Helen: And we should never ever forget to flush the toilet.

Li: 这点最重要, 绝对不能忘记冲厕所 flush the toilet.

Helen: And if you use public toilets, there's likely to be a queue.

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If there is a queue for the toilet, you need to stand there and be patient and just wait your turn. If it were a case where you're really desperate to go, then you could ask people would they mind if you skip the queue.

Li: 在英国，排队 **queuing** 是最基本的礼仪。大家非常注意排队，一般也很有耐心等待 **be patient and wait your turn**。

Helen: **But if someone is desperate to go to the loo, they can just ask the others in the queue whether they can go first.**

Li: 如果实在等不及了，那就问问其他排队的人是否介意你夹个三儿。一般大家都会让你先用厕所的。

Helen: **Don't skip the queue without asking anyone first, that is considered very rude.**

Li: 没有教养 **rude**。

Helen: **Right, I think we've covered a few key points about toilet manners here.**

Li: **Very useful.** 希望我们今天的节目回答了怎样礼貌的表达我们需要用厕所的意向。别忘了在我们的网站上还有更多的英语节目大家可以免费下载。

Helen: The website address is www.bbcchina.com.cn。

Li: 我们下次节目再见。

Helen: **Sorry, Li, I'm desperate. Would you excuse me for a minute?**

Li: **Sure, see you in a bit. Go!**