

# South Park

## Japanese Toilets

**Part 1 Vocabulary Preview** Before you watch the video, try to guess what the underlined expressions mean from context clues.

1. The toilet in our powder room is kind of old. If it doesn't flush properly, just jiggle the handle.
2. After you use the toilet, please close the lid and cover the bowl.
3. I bought a new washing machine with all the bells and whistles. It was very expensive.
4. Do you want the basic model, or do you want the one with all of the high-end features.
5. I just bought a bidet for my toilet. It washes and dries, and it also has a seat warmer.

### Part 2 Background & Gist



Randy



Sharon



Stan

- Randy owns a farm where he grows marijuana.
- Gryffindor and Slytherin are houses from Harry Potter.

As you are watching the video, think about: **Why does Randy decide to buy a Japanese toilet? Try to think of at least two different reasons.**

**Part 3 Comprehension** After you watch the video, decide if these statements are true or false.

1. **T / F** Stan is playing the new Harry Potter game.
2. **T / F** Sharon wants Randy to fix the powder room door.
3. **T / F** Randy doesn't want to lift the toilet lid.
4. **T / F** Sharon decides that she wants Randy to buy a new toilet.
5. **T / F** Randy wants to find a good cheap toilet.
6. **T / F** The Japanese toilets have seat warmers.
7. **T / F** The Japanese toilet lid goes up when you press a button.
8. **T / F** The Japanese toilets serve you champagne.
9. **T / F** The Japanese toilets come with high-end toilet paper.
10. **T / F** Randy wants to buy a Japanese toilet.

**Part 4 Discussion** *Discuss these questions with your partner or group.*

1. How do you feel about bidets? What are the pros and cons?
2. What features were mentioned in the video? Did any of the features surprise you? Are there any features you would like to add?
3. Do you have a bidet in your home? If not, would you consider buying one? Did this video have any effect on your opinion?
4. What sales techniques did the Home Depot employees use to sell Randy the most expensive toilet?
5. One reason that Randy wants to buy the Japanese toilet is to show off his wealth. Do you have friends who like to flaunt (show off) luxury items in order to demonstrate their wealth? What items?
6. What products, items, services, or experiences are the most common symbols of wealth these days? Have these symbols changed in the past 25 years?
7. They use the expression "take a shit" in the video. It is very common, but obviously not formal or polite. Can you think of some other English expressions for "go to the bathroom"? Try to think of both polite and vulgar expressions.
8. Despite being married, Sharon doesn't want Randy to lift the lid. Randy doesn't seem to care. When you are in a relationship, who are you more similar to?
9. Do you think you could fix Ol' Blue (Randy's toilet)? What would you do?

**Part 5 Language Review** *Choose the word or expression from the video that best matches the highlighted expressions.*

1. Did you [ **shake/move** ] the handle?
2. Randy! We need to [ **buy** ] a new toilet.
3. We can't just [ **throw away** ] 'Ol Blue, Sharon.
4. All our toilets here are standard bowl and [ **include** ] a full warranty.
5. How much are you [ **planning** ] to spend?
6. That's probably the top model before you start [ **considering** ] the Japanese toilets.
7. You probably don't want to spend [ **so much** ] money.
8. My name is Rick. [ **Please tell me** ] if there's anything you need.
9. All the toilet's functions are operated by a touch-button remote which you [ **install** ] where the toilet-paper roll used to go.
10. So then where do you [ **put** ] the toilet paper?

**Part 6 Sentence Building** Write sentences about the video clip using the words given. You can change the word form or add words, but you cannot change the word order. Use a present time frame (tenses).

E.g. Randy / not / let / Stan / play / new / Harry Potter / game

Randy won't let Stan play the new Harry Potter game.

1. Sharon / first / ask / Randy / fix / powder / room / toilet
2. Sharon / not / let / Randy / lift / lid / because / she / just / take / shit
3. then / she / insist / he / buy / new / toilet
4. Randy / seem / reluctant / get / rid / Ol' Blue / first / but / he / eventual / agree
5. at / Home / Depot / sale / associate / show / Randy / all / normal / toilet
6. when / Randy / ask / see / top / model / sale / associate / take / him / Japan / toilet / showroom
7. he / explain / all / high / end / feature / Randy
8. he / then / invite / Randy / take / one / test / drive
9. after / Randy / use / toilet / he / decide / buy / one

**Script** As you watch the video, try to fill in the missing language.

**Randy:** See, Stan? You've got to choose if you want to be in Gryffindor or Slytherin.

**Stan:** Yeah, can I do it?

**Randy:** Yeah, see, you've got to fight these fairy guys.

**Sharon:** Randy. Randy! The 1) \_\_\_\_\_ toilet is broken. Again!

**Randy:** Did you 2) \_\_\_\_\_ the handle?

**Sharon:** Yes, I 2) \_\_\_\_\_ the handle. Will you come fix this, please?

**Randy:** Okay, okay...

**Randy:** Huh, well, let's see. It's got to be the little black floaty thingy. What'd you do to it?

**Sharon:** I didn't do anything.

**Randy:** Let me see if there's water in the bowl.

**Sharon:** No! Don't lift the lid!

**Randy:** Why can't I lift the lid?

**Sharon:** Don't, Randy!

**Randy:** Uh-huh... Hey, guys! Your mom 3) \_\_\_\_\_ and doesn't want me to see it.

**Stan:** Ew!

**Shelly:** Gross, Dad!

**Sharon:** Randy! We need to get a new toilet.

**Randy:** We can't just get rid of 'Ol Blue, Sharon.

**Sharon:** This is embarrassing. It's the 1) \_\_\_\_\_ toilet, the one guests use. You get a new toilet, Randy, or I'm not helping you sell weed anymore!

**Randy:** Alright, alright. Sharron, you win. As usual. Poor 'Ol Blue...

\* \* \* \* \*

**Employee:** Can I help you with anything?

**Randy:** Oh, yeah, (I'm) just looking for a new toilet to replace Ol' Blue.

**Employee:** Alright, well, all our toilets here are standard bowl, come with full warranty. How much you looking to spend?

**Randy:** Well, I'm not poor. I happen to have my own 4) \_\_\_\_\_ business. So that's pretty much the nicest one you have, right?

**Employee:** Yeah, that's probably the top model, you know, before you start getting into the Japanese toilets.

**Randy:** Japanese toilets?

**Employee:** Yeah, they're the sort of the super-high-class luxury models with all 5) \_\_\_\_\_ . But you probably don't want to spend that kind of money.

**Randy:** I'm not poor.

**Employee:** Oh, well, we can show them to you. The Japanese toilets are right over there.

**Employee:** Hi, Rick. This gentleman would like to see the Japanese toilets.

**Rick:** Well, of course, sir. My name is Rick. Let me know if there's anything you need.

**Employee:** These toilets are all equipped with 6) \_\_\_\_\_ features, including an automatic bidet system, Bluetooth capability, and seat warmers.

**Randy:** Seat warmers?

**Employee:** Of course. And the toilet senses when you've come into the room, turns on a small light, plays welcome music, and raises the lid for you.

**Waitress:** Can I offer you some sparkling water or champagne?

**Randy:** Oh, sure, I'll take some champagne.

**Employee:** All the toilet's functions are operated by a touch-button remote which you mount where the toilet-paper roll used to go.

**Randy:** So then where do you keep the toilet paper?

**Employee:** With a Japanese toilet, you don't need toilet paper. The toilet washes you completely clean.

**Randy:** You're mad.

**Employee:** No, it's true. It has warm water and a dryer and cleans you eight times better than toilet paper can. Would you like to take one for 7) \_\_\_\_\_ ?

**Randy:** Oh, uh, sure. I did have kind of a big breakfast.

**Employee:** Right over here.

**Randy:** Oh! Whoa! Ooh. Oh, oh! Oh. Ahh! Oh, oh...

**Randy:** Okay, how much?

## Answers

### Part 3

1. **FALSE** Stan is playing the new Harry Potter game.
2. **FALSE** Sharon wants Randy to fix the powder room door.
3. **FALSE** Randy doesn't want to lift the toilet lid.
4. **TRUE** Sharon decides that she wants Randy to buy a new toilet.
5. **FALSE** Randy wants to find a good cheap toilet.
6. **TRUE** The Japanese toilets have seat warmers.
7. **FALSE** The Japanese toilet lid goes up when you press a button.
8. **FALSE** The Japanese toilets serve you champagne.
9. **FALSE** The Japanese toilets come with high-end toilet paper.
10. **TRUE** Randy wants to buy a Japanese toilet.

### Part 5

1. Did you [ **jiggle** ] the handle?
2. Randy! We need to [ **get** ] a new toilet.
3. We can't just [ **get rid of** ] 'Ol Blue, Sharon.
4. All our toilets here are standard bowl and [ **comes with** ] a full warranty.
5. How much are you [ **looking** ] to spend?
6. That's probably the top model before you start [ **getting into** ] the Japanese toilets.
7. You probably don't want to spend [ **that kind of** ] money.
8. My name is Rick. [ **Let me know** ] if there's anything you need.
9. All the toilet's functions are operated by a touch-button remote which you [ **mount** ] where the toilet-paper roll used to go.
10. So then where do you [ **keep** ] the toilet paper?

### Part 6

1. Sharon first asks Randy to fix the powder room toilet.
2. Sharon [won't/doesn't] let Randy lift the lid because she just took a shit.  
Sharon [won't/doesn't] let Randy lift the lid because she has just taken a shit.
3. Then she insists (that) he buy a new toilet.
4. Randy seems reluctant to get rid of Ol' Blue at first, but he eventually agrees.
5. At Home Depot, a sales associate shows Randy all (of) the normal toilets.
6. When Randy asks to see [their/the] top model, the sales associate takes him to the Japanese toilet showroom.
7. He explains all (of) the high-end features to Randy.
8. He then invites Randy to take one for a test drive.
9. After Randy uses the toilet, he decides to buy one.

### Script

- 1) powder room
- 2) jiggle, jiggled
- 3) took a shit
- 4) weed
- 5) the bells and whistles
- 6) the highest-end
- 7) a test drive