In the bathroom

Everyone has one — but do you know how to talk about the things you do there? ANNA HOCHSIEDER presents keywords related to the bathroom.

EASY PLUS

I’m in the bath!

There are five of us in the family. With two teenagers hogging the bathroom at all hours, it’s not easy. I can tell you! My husband and I are the first to get up in the morning. My husband shaves while I have a shower. Then he showers while I wake the children. The little one has a bath in the evening, so I just make sure she washes quickly, brushes her teeth and combs her hair. The two older ones fight it out among themselves who gets to use the bathroom first. They both insist on washing their hair every day.

My son spends ages styling his hair with hair gel, but my daughter just quickly blow-dries hers before putting on her make-up in front of the mirror and rushing off to school. In the evening, I run a bath for my youngest. She likes me to scrub her back with a sponge. I’ve taught her to clean her teeth with dental floss, but she still needs help cutting her nails. On Sundays, I put on a face mask, hop in the bath and relax with a nice long soak. Usually, someone will bang on the door, shouting they need to use the loo, but I just turn up the volume on my splash-proof radio and ignore them!
PRACTICE

Now, try the following exercises to practise your bathroom language.

Exercise 1

Study the picture on the opposite page and find the British and American English words for the objects described below.

A. You turn it on to let water flow into the bath or sink:
   UK: .................................................. N. Am.: ..................................................
B. It stops the water from flowing out of the bath or sink:
   UK: .................................................. N. Am.: ..................................................
C. You hang your towels on it:
   UK: .................................................. N. Am.: ..................................................
D. It’s a small piece of cloth that you use for washing:
   UK: .................................................. N. Am.: ..................................................
E. You put your hairdryer in it to connect to the power supply:
   UK: .................................................. N. Am.: ..................................................
F. You sit or lie in it to relax and wash your whole body:
   UK: .................................................. N. Am.: ..................................................

Exercise 2

Match the verbs on the left to the words and phrases on the right. Some verbs have several matches.

A. brush                                                                 1. a bath
B. clean                                                                2. in the bath
C. have                                                                 3. the bathroom
D. hop                                                                  4. a face mask
E. put on                                                               5. your hair
F. run                                                                  6. make-up
G. use                                                                  7. your teeth
H. wash                                                                 8. the toilet

Exercise 3

Complete the definitions with words from the text on the opposite page.

A. If you “............................................ the bathroom”, you occupy it for a long time, preventing others from using it.
B. If you “............................................ it out”, you argue until something is decided.
C. If you “............................................ your hair”, you dry it with a hairdryer.
D. If you “have a(n) .....................................”, you spend a period of time in the bath.
E. If something is “............................................”, it is not easily damaged by drops of water.

Toilet language

Be careful when referring to toilets! In Britain, you go to the toilet, or, more formally, to the lavatory. In informal British English, this is often shortened to the loo.

American English speakers talk about going to or using the bathroom. Don’t use the word “toilet” in the US!

Public toilets in Britain are often identifiable by the signs Ladies and Gents. Signs may also read WC or Public conveniences. In the US, look out for the restroom, the ladies’ or women’s room and the men’s room.

Unter www.spotlight-online.de/teachers/picture-it finden Sie Übersetzungen und das gesamte Vocabulary-Archiv.