Writing Task #3:

Changing the Old Toilet to a New Model

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Dear Mr. Rayaroth,

Thank you for replacing the leaky gasket of my toilet last week. Your visit has been a great help to me and I think I am so lucky to have a landlord like you. By the way, I am sorry to hear that you also have a leaky toilet, even though it is not so serious. Nonetheless, I believe this can be turned out to be good for you, because you now have a chance to get a toilet which is economically and, at the same time, environmentally friendly.

I know replacing the toilet will cost much more than just changing several parts, but you have already tried that and it is still leaking a little bit, isn’t it? Also, you might think that it is OK to live with a slight running toilet because the amount of wasted water does not seem that much. However, this is not true. Every time you flush, you use 3.6 gallons of water on average (Alliance for Water Efficiency, 2016, para. 3). As far as I know, the water in the water tank of your toilet disappears every hour. Therefore, it means you are losing about 1,050 gallons of water every year, which is equal to approximately $240 in the Waterloo region (Region of Waterloo, 2010, papa. 1). Surprisingly, here lies the golden chance to save you even more money.

According to the Alliance for Water Efficiency, if you change your toilet from an older one to a High Efficiency Toilet (HET), you can save 17,000 gallons per year, which means approximately $130. Table 1 shows how much money you can save every time you use the HETs. As you can see, you will save enough money to cover the cost of the new toilet in about two years.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Amount of water used  to flush (in gallons) | Older toilets | Ultra-low-flow (ULF) | High Efficiency Toilets(HETs) |
| Once | 3.6 | 1.6 | 1.3 |
| Daily  (1 person) | 18.8 | 9.1 | - |
| Yearly  (A family of 4) | 26,000 | 11,000 | 9,000 |

Table 1. Amount of Water Used to Flush. Created with data from Alliance for Water Efficiency (2016, para. 3)

In addition to this, you can help save the environment of Canada. Jolicoeur reports that, “Canadians currently use an average of 329 litres of water per person, per day — second only to the United States in the developed world, and more than twice as much as Europeans” (Jolicoeur, 2009, para. 1). I know how much you are concerned about the environment, and I am sure you do not want to take part in destroying it.

I understand this can be a tough decision for you to make because this may not seem like a serious problem. However, I strongly recommend you to consider replacing the old toilet with a new HET because in the long term, it will not only save you a lot of money in the end, but make Canada a greener, healthier place.

Sincerely,

Jaden

**References**

Alliance for Water Efficiency. (2016). *Toilets.* Retrieved February 14, 2017, from http://www.home-water-works.org/indoor-use/toilets

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Region of Waterloo, (2010). *Billing, Rates & Meters.* Retrieved February 14, 2017, from http://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/aboutTheEnvironment/billingratesandmeters.asp