

Japanese professor invents lickable TV screen

30th December, 2021



Have you ever wanted to taste the delicious-looking food you see on cooking shows? Well, that wish has moved a step closer. A professor in Japan has developed a prototype TV screen that you can lick. It is called TTTV. This abbreviation means "Taste the TV". Professor Homei

Miyashita from Meiji University in Tokyo created the screen. He said it could become "taste-a-vision". If he created a screen that emits smells, we could also have "smell-a-vision". Professor Miyashita wanted to create a screen that gave a multisensory experience. He hopes his work means that screen technology can move on from just having pictures and sound to a screen that engages the sense of taste too.

Professor Miyashita said his screen can imitate food flavours. It works a bit like an inkjet printer that uses different cartridges to create different colours. Instead of ink, Miyashita's TTTV uses 10 different flavour cartridges. These spray a combination of flavours onto a hygienic film that is part of the TV screen. The TV viewer can then lick the screen to sample the taste. Professor Miyashita said: "The goal is to make it possible for people to have the experience of something like eating at a restaurant on the other side of the world, even while staying at home." A student at Meiji University sampled a chocolate she saw on the screen. She said: "It's sweet like a chocolate sauce." Miyashita said TTTV would cost about \$870.

Sources: japantimes.co.jp / theguardian.com / theverge.com

Writing

Lickable and smellable TV would mean we no longer have to travel. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

taste / cooking shows / professor / TV screen / technology / pictures / sound / sense / food flavours / printer / ink / spray / lick / goal / experience / staying at home / sauce

True / False

- 1) The article asks if we have ever been on a cooking show on TV. T / F
- 2) A professor in Japan created a lickable TV screen called TVTT. T / F
- 3) The professor created a screen for us to be able to smell food. T / F
- 4) The professor created a screen for us to use more than one sense. T / F
- 5) The article says the lickable screen is similar to an inkjet printer. T / F
- 6) The lickable screen uses 10 different printer ink cartridges. T / F
- 7) The screen could let us experience the taste of food worldwide. T / F
- 8) A student said the taste of chocolate was nothing like chocolate. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 1. delicious | a. mix |
| 2. step | b. first model |
| 3. prototype | c. copy |
| 4. emits | d. stage |
| 5. just | e. be priced at |
| 6. imitate | f. only |
| 7. combination | g. tried out |
| 8. goal | h. tasty |
| 9. sampled | i. aim |
| 10. cost | j. releases |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) Do you like watching TV programmes about food?
- c) What would we do to make the lickable screens hygienic?
- d) What do you think of tasting what's on social media?
- e) Will people on trains be licking their smartphone screens?
- f) What would be the best taste to lick on a screen?
- g) How might TTTV affect international travel?
- h) What questions would you like to ask the professor?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1. taste the delicious-looking food you see | a. imitate food flavours |
| 2. that wish has moved a step | b. prototype TV screen |
| 3. A professor in Japan has developed a | c. at home |
| 4. If he created a screen that emits | d. experience |
| 5. a screen that gave a multisensory | e. like an inkjet printer |
| 6. his screen can | f. on cooking shows |
| 7. It works a bit | g. other side of the world |
| 8. These spray a combination | h. smells |
| 9. eating at a restaurant on the | i. of flavours |
| 10. even while staying | j. closer |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think of cooking shows on TV?
- What do you think of a lickable TV screen?
- Would you like to send the taste of your cooking in an email?
- Would a lickable screen make people hungrier?
- Would you rather have a TV screen with tastes or smells?
- How would TTTV help restaurants?
- What three adjectives best describe this story?
- Will we have smells in movie theatres one day?

Spelling

- ciidoleus-looking food
- developed a poyrtoetp TV screen
- This niratobevaib means "Taste the TV"
- a screen that metis smells
- a umstsinerylo experience
- eggnaes the sense of taste
- his screen can aittmie food flavours
- uses different cegdatrrs
- spray a nbcniiatmoo of flavours
- sepmal the taste
- eating at a tnraasteur
- like a aolochetc sauce

Answers – Synonym Match

1. h	2. d	3. b	4. j	5. f
6. c	7. a	8. i	9. g	10. e

Role Play

Role A – Potato Chips

You think potato chips are the tastiest thing. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as tasty. Also, tell the others which is the least tasty of these (and why): blueberries, grilled fish or garlic.

Role B – Blueberries

You think blueberries are the tastiest thing. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as tasty. Also, tell the others which is the least tasty of these (and why): potato chips, grilled fish or garlic.

Role C – Grilled Fish

You think grilled fish is the tastiest thing. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as tasty. Also, tell the others which is the least tasty of these (and why): blueberries, potato chips or garlic.

Role D – Garlic

You think garlic is the tastiest thing. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as tasty. Also, tell the others which is the least tasty of these (and why): blueberries, grilled fish or potato chips.

Speaking – Tastiest

Rank these with your partner. Put the tastiest things at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| • Potato chips | • Spicy chicken |
| • Chocolate | • Garlic |
| • Blueberries | • Grilled fish |
| • Coffee | • Apple juice |

Answers – True False

1	F	2	F	3	F	4	T	5	T	6	F	7	T	8	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.