

Virtual reality cake tasting with electronic tongue

**Description** 









An e-Taste system has been developed by Yizhen Jia and his team at The Ohio State University. This electronic tongue can mimic flavors like cake and fish soup. However, it currently cannot reproduce other factors that affect taste, such as smell.

The e-Taste system uses chemicals representing the five basic tastes: salty, sour, sweet, bitter, and umami. By detecting these chemicals in food, converting them into digital readings, and then delivering flavor-containing hydrogels through a tube under the tongue, the system can partially recreate a food's flavor in the mouth.

In tests, the device successfully reproduced single flavors and more complex tastes like lemonade, cake, fried egg, fish soup, and coffee. However, Alan Chalmers from the University of Warwick notes that taste is not solely determined by flavors but also by other senses like smell and sight. For example, a strawberry tastes sweet because of its aroma and color, even though it is sour.

While the e-Taste system can measure sweetness and sourness, it cannot replicate taste as perceived by the human tongue. This highlights the complexity of taste perception involving multiple senses.

Source: The Ohio State University & University of Warwick

## **Vocabulary List:**

1. **Hydrogels** /'haɪ.drəʊ.dʒel/ (noun): A gel that contains a significant amount of water used in various applications including flavor delivery.

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- 2. **Reproduce** /,ri:.prə'dju:s/ (verb): To produce or create something again or anew.
- 3. Flavor /'fleɪ.vər/ (noun): A distinctive taste of a substance especially food or drink.
- 4. **Perception** /pər'sɛp.ʃən/ (noun): The process of becoming aware of something through the senses.
- 5. **Senses** /'sɛn·sɪz/ (noun): The physiological capacities of organisms that allow them to receive and process stimuli.
- 6. **Complexity** /kəmˈplɛk.sɪ.ti/ (noun): The state or quality of being intricate or complicated.

# **Comprehension Questions**

### **Multiple Choice**

1. Who developed the e-Taste system?

Option: Yizhen Jia and his team at The Ohio State University

Option: Alan Chalmers from the University of Warwick Option: Ratan Naval Tata and his team at Tata Group



Option: Elon Musk at SpaceX

2. Which of the following tastes are represented by chemicals in the e-Taste system?

Option: Salty, sour, spicy, umami Option: Sweet, bitter, savory, creamy Option: Sour, bitter, umami, cheesy Option: Salty, sour, sweet, bitter, umami

3. According to the content, what aspect of taste cannot the e-Taste system replicate?

Option: Color perception

Option: Smell Option: Sound Option: Touch

4. Which of the following complex tastes were successfully reproduced by the e-Taste system in tests?

Option: Lemonade and orange juice

Option: Tea and coffee

Option: Fried chicken and steak
Option: Fish soup and coffee

5. Why does a strawberry taste sweet even though it is sour?

Option: Due to its color Option: Due to its size Option: Due to its texture

Option: Due to its aroma and color

6. What senses, in addition to taste, are mentioned to influence the perception of flavor?

Option: Hearing and touch Option: Smell and sight

Option: Balance and proprioception
Option: Temperature and pressure

#### **True-False**

- 7. The e-Taste system can perfectly replicate taste perceptions as experienced by the human tongue.
- 8. The e-Taste system was developed by Alan Chalmers.



- 9. The e-Taste system uses chemicals to represent the five basic tastes.
- 10. Taste perception involves only the sense of taste, according to Alan Chalmers.
- 11. The e-Taste system delivers flavor-containing hydrogels through a tube under the nose.
- 12. The taste of a food is solely determined by its flavor components.

### **Gap-Fill**

13. The e-Taste system can mimic flavors like cake and fish soup, but it cannot reproduce other factors that
affect taste, such as
14. The e-Taste system was developed by Yizhen Jia and his team at The Ohio State University to partially
recreate a food's flavor in the
15. In tests, the e-Taste system successfully reproduced tastes like lemonade, cake, fried egg, fish soup,
and
16. According to the content, taste perception involves multiple
17. The e-Taste system can measure sweetness and
18. The complexity of taste perception is highlighted due to the involvement of multiple

## **Answer**

Multiple Choice: 1. Yizhen Jia and his team at The Ohio State University 2. Salty, sour, sweet, bitter, umami

3. Smell 4. Fish soup and coffee 5. Due to its aroma and color 6. Smell and sight

**True-False:** 7. False 8. False 9. True 10. False 11. False 12. False **Gap-Fill:** 13. smell 14. mouth 15. coffee 16. senses 17. sourness

# Vocabulary quizzes



### Multiple Choice ( Select the Correct answer for each question. )

1. What term refers to the vast expanses of outer space?

Option: A) Geographical

Option: B) Cosmic Option: C) Biological Option: D) Technological

2. Which term describes the process of creating offspring or making copies?

Option: A) Geological Option: B) Encounter Option: C) Reproduce Option: D) Hydrogels

3. What term refers to a serious disagreement or argument?

Option: A) Interference Option: B) Encounter Option: C) Conflict Option: D) Perception

4. Which term describes the process of gradual development or change?

Option: A) Advancements Option: B) Resolution Option: C) Adaptations Option: D) Evolution

5. What term refers to the refusal to accept or comply with something?

Option: A) Temporarily Option: B) Complexity Option: C) Resistance Option: D) Permanence

6. Which term refers to treatments for medical conditions?

Option: A) Breakthrough Option: B) Sabotage Option: C) Therapies Option: D) Directive

7. What term describes improvements or developments?

Option: A) Obscured Option: B) Pattern

Option: C) Advancements



Option: D) Utilizes

8. Which term is related to the study of shapes and spaces?

Option: A) Encounter Option: B) Complexity Option: C) Geometry Option: D) Hydrogels

9. What term means to bring about a complete change in a significant way?

Option: A) Meet

Option: B) Challenge Option: C) Revolutionize

Option: D) Repeat

10. Which term means capable of working successfully or feasible?

Option: A) Geological Option: B) Encounter Option: C) Viable Option: D) Perception

### Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11.	features are related to processes occurring within the Earth.
12.	Proper is essential for the smooth functioning of any organization.
13.	The repeated arrangement of elements forms a recognizable
14.	The manager issued a clear to all employees regarding the new policy.
15.	are the working parts or steps that make something function.
16.	The unique of the dish came from the blend of spices used.
17.	The of the situation required a thorough analysis to understand.
18.	During their with the new species the researchers noted unique behaviors.
19.	The new technology the latest advancements in artificial intelligence.
20.	One's of a situation can greatly impact their response.



### Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )

- 21. The dense fog the view of the mountains making it difficult to see them clearly.
- 22. Her grandfather's passion for music greatly her own musical tastes.
- 23. are a type of materials with high water content often used in medical applications.
- 24. The five include sight hearing touch taste and smell.
- 25. The scientific team made a major in cancer research leading to new treatment possibilities.
- 26. There are millions of different on Earth each with its unique characteristics.
- 27. The bird's to cold environments include growing thicker feathers for insulation.
- 28. The spy attempted to the enemy's communication system to hinder their operations.
- 29. The company issued a new safety outlining emergency procedures for all employees.
- 30. The store closed for renovations but reopened with a new look.

### **Answer**

Multiple Choice: 1. B) Cosmic 2. C) Reproduce 3. C) Conflict 4. D) Evolution 5. C) Resistance 6. C) Therapies 7. C) Advancements 8. C) Geometry 9. C) Revolutionize 10. C) Viable

Gap-Fill: 11. Geological 12. Administration 13. Pattern 14. Directive 15. Mechanisms 16. Flavor 17.

Complexity 18. Encounter 19. Utilizes 20. Perception

Matching sentence: 1. Obscured 2. Influenced 3. Hydrogels 4. Senses 5. Breakthrough 6. Species 7.

Adaptations 8. Sabotage 9. Directive 10. Temporarily

### **CATEGORY**

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL3

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