

## Japan to start selling sliced mayonnaise

27th February, 2020



Image - [www.bourbon.co.jp](http://www.bourbon.co.jp)

Whatever will they think of next? A food manufacturer in Japan has invented a new product that seems destined to become a huge, global bestseller. The imaginative new culinary invention is sliced mayonnaise. Japanese food company Bourbon

believes their handy new comestible will catch on big time. The mayonnaise slices are called "mayo sheets" on the label of the product in Japan. The packaging describes the item as being a "sheet-like condiment" that is good for "easy cooking". The mayo slices (or sheets) come in two flavours – spicy cod roe (mentaiko in Japanese) and tuna. A spokesperson from the company hopes people will add its mayo slices to liven up sandwiches or enhance the taste of pasta dishes.

The new product will start selling soon in Japan for a price of \$1.80 for a pack of four slices. While the company is sure the mayo sheets will be very popular with consumers, especially those in Japan, the social media jury is out on whether the new item is a good idea. The cnet.com website wrote: "Both mayo fans and haters chimed in on Twitter - in equal parts excitement and disgust - about the new slices." The Gizmodo.com website wrote: "Slapping a slice of mayo on a plate of fresh pasta isn't exactly a serving suggestion Americans might embrace, but the next time you're making a bacon, lettuce, and tomato sandwich in a hurry, you might actually be happy to reach for a quick slice."

Sources: [cnet.com](http://cnet.com) / [gizmodo.com](http://gizmodo.com) / [foodandwine.com](http://foodandwine.com)

## Writing

Sliced mayonnaise is the best idea since sliced bread. Discuss.

## Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

food / manufacturer / invention / new product / culinary / mayonnaise / packaging / consumers / social media / disgust / pasta / bacon / sandwich / in a hurry / slice

## True / False

- a) The article asked about who they will think of next. T / F
- b) The company thinks its new product will sell in small numbers. T / F
- c) In Japan, the mayo slices are called "mayo sheets". T / F
- d) Some of the mayo slices are flavoured with spicy cod roe. T / F
- e) The slices will sell in packs of eight for \$1.80. T / F
- f) A jury on social media will decide whether to allow the sale of the slices. T / F
- g) A website was unsure whether American would like the mayo slices. T / F
- h) A website suggested the mayo slices are good for people in a hurry. T / F

## Synonym Match

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

- |                        |                |
|------------------------|----------------|
| 1. <b>manufacturer</b> | a. heighten    |
| 2. <b>huge</b>         | b. convenient  |
| 3. <b>invention</b>    | c. rush        |
| 4. <b>handy</b>        | d. enormous    |
| 5. <b>enhance</b>      | e. interjected |
| 6. <b>pack</b>         | f. revulsion   |
| 7. <b>chimed in</b>    | g. maker       |
| 8. <b>disgust</b>      | h. welcome     |
| 9. <b>embrace</b>      | i. creation    |
| 10. <b>hurry</b>       | j. carton      |

## Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) What is the best thing since sliced bread?
- c) What things do you want to see sliced?
- d) Is sliced mayo or mayo in a jar best?
- e) What are the best things to eat mayo with?
- f) What is your favourite sandwich filling?
- g) Why might people react with disgust towards a mayo slice?
- h) What questions would you like to ask the company?

## Phrase Match

- |  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| 1. A food manufacturer in Japan has invented | a. invention           |
| 2. destined to become a huge,                | b. in on Twitter       |
| 3. The imaginative new culinary              | c. pack of four slices |
| 4. their handy new comestible will catch     | d. a quick slice       |
| 5. its mayo slices to liven                  | e. global bestseller   |
| 6. a price of \$1.80 for a                   | f. embrace             |
| 7. the social media jury                     | g. up sandwiches       |
| 8. Both mayo fans and haters chimed          | h. a new product       |
| 9. a serving suggestion Americans might      | i. is out              |
| 10. be happy to reach for                    | j. on big time         |

## Discussion – Student B

- What do you think of sliced mayonnaise?
- What do you think of sliced bread?
- What other sliced things do you think are useful?
- Would you like to try the sliced mayonnaise?
- What do you think of Japanese food?
- What flavours would you add to mayonnaise?
- What are your favourite condiments?
- What would you use to enhance the taste of food?

## Spelling

- etdsdien to become a huge, global bestseller
- The imaginative new clarnuyi invention
- their handy new cmesbltoei
- a sheet-like tniomndec
- eilnv up sandwiches
- neanhce the taste of pasta dishes
- very popular with essoncmur
- the social media ujyr is out
- mayo fans and haters cidmhe in on Twitter
- in equal parts excitement and isgutsd
- a serving uoegnigsst
- Americans might cemaebr

### Answers – Synonym Match

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

## Role Play

### Role A – Tuna

You think tuna is the best sandwich filling. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their fillings. Also, tell the others which is the least tasty of these (and why): jam, vegetable or egg.

### Role B – Jam

You think jam is the best sandwich filling. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their fillings. Also, tell the others which is the least tasty of these (and why): tuna, vegetable or egg.

### Role C – Vegetable

You think vegetable is the best sandwich filling. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their fillings. Also, tell the others which is the least tasty of these (and why): jam, tuna or egg.

### Role D – Egg

You think egg is the best sandwich filling. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their fillings. Also, tell the others which is the least tasty of these (and why): jam, vegetable or tuna.

## Speaking – Sandwiches

Rank these with your partner. Put the best sandwich fillings at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- |                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| • ham           | • tuna    |
| • vegetables    | • chicken |
| • peanut butter | • cheese  |
| • jam           | • egg     |

### Answers – True False

a	F	b	F	c	T	d	T	e	F	f	F	g	T	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.