

The sandwich that some people pay £28 for

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Over the top? Despite the name, there is no real gold in the mustard mayonnaise in the Harrods sandwich.

Is it wrong to spend so much on a sandwich? One of the world's most expensive sandwiches is being sold in London. Meanwhile, some people in the world do not have enough to eat.

What's happening?

Take two slices of tasty bread. Add black **truffle** butter, "gold" mustard filling, mushrooms and the world's rarest kind of **steak**. What do you get? A sandwich fit for a king — or anyone else willing to pay £28.

A new beef sandwich, sold at a shop called **Harrods** in London, costs about £2.50 a bite.

Find out more

Some are asking: can it really be that tasty? But others are asking: when so many do not have enough food, is it wrong to spend so much money on one sandwich?

People have enjoyed **luxury** for thousands of years. In **Ancient Rome**, rich people held huge meals with more food than they could eat.

And even though **Jesus** told his followers not to "store up... treasures on Earth", Christians have spent huge amounts of money building amazing churches.

Many thinkers throughout history have worried that luxury makes people **immoral**.

One thinker, **Adam Smith**, thought that people only treated each other well because they saw others as being like them. But if some people got too rich, they might no longer see the poor as human beings like themselves.

But others have claimed that luxury can be a good thing for everyone. If somebody buys a £28 sandwich, they say, they are helping to pay the chefs that made the sandwich, the farmer that brought up the cows and the pig handlers who found the truffles.

Is it wrong to spend so much on a sandwich? ?

Some say

Yes! There are millions of hungry people in the world. Yet others are spending £28 on a sandwich. They should not be allowed to waste money like this.

Others think

No! The beef sandwich gives work to farmers, butchers and truffle pigs. It is good for everyone, not just the people eating the sandwich.

Some people say

"Poverty is apt to strike suddenly like influenza, it is well to have a few memories of extravagance in store for bad times."

Graham Greene (1904 – 1991), English author

What do you think?

Six steps to discovery

1. Connect

How do you feel about this story? - Would you like to try the £28 sandwich?

2. Wonder

What questions do you have? - For example: Should there be limits on what people are allowed to spend?

3. Investigate

What are the facts? - Pick out one thing we know for certain and one thing we cannot say for sure from this story.

4. Construct

What is your point of view? - What is the most you would pay for a really good sandwich?

5. Express

What do others believe? - Get in a small group and discuss the question: "Is it good to be greedy?"

6. Reflect

What might happen next? - Design the most delicious sandwich in the world and draw a picture of it.

Glossary

Truffle - A strong-smelling fungus that is considered by some to be one of the tastiest foods. They are sniffed out by trained pigs and dogs.

Steak - A thick slice of beef.

Harrods - A large, expensive department store in London.

Luxury - Something that makes your life very comfortable or pleasant.

Ancient Rome - One of the largest empires in the ancient world.

Jesus - Jesus or Jesus Christ is the name of the man who Christians believe was the son of God, and whose teachings are the basis of Christianity.

Immoral - Outside of what most people in society think is right and fair.

Adam Smith - An 18th-Century Scottish economist often known as the "father of economics".