

- 关于台词的备注:  
请注意这不是广播节目的逐字稿件。本文稿可能没有体现录制、编辑过程中对节目做出的改变。
- 请注意: 中文文字内容只提供简体版

**(In the office, people are discussing where they should go for a meal)**

- A:** OK, everyone it's 6 o'clock, I'm done. I think it's time we go for dinner!
- B:** I'm starving. Shall we go to Big Eaters? I love their salad - you can go bottomless.
- C:** I'm not a salad person. How about some fish and chips? Happy Fisher offers bottomless chips.
- D:** No, I suggest we go to Happy Chicken across the road. We can go bottomless with any soft drinks. I'm very thirsty.
- A:** Do we know anywhere that we can go bottomless on the main course?
- D:** Oh, that can only be your home!
- Li:** Oh my God! 怎么回事, 要裸体去餐馆儿? Hey, Neil, what are you talking about? Are we really going 'bottomless' tonight? 实在抱歉, 裸体就餐我实在为难啊。I'm afraid I can't go to the restaurant naked!
- Neil:** Oh Li. You have misunderstood the word 'bottomless'.
- Li:** Oh? What does it mean then?
- Neil:** Here it simply means 'unlimited' or 'boundless' - you can have as much food or drink as you like for the same price.
- Li:** Ah, 原来这个词的意思是不限量, 多吃多给。It sounds like a buffet, doesn't it? You can eat as much as you like. So can I say 'I had a bottomless buffet'?
- Neil:** No, it's not a term people say or use, mostly you see it only on the menu in a restaurant.
- Li:** 我倒是见过 unlimited 表示不限量, 这么说 'bottomless' 是同一个意思, 只不过说法不同。
- Neil:** Yes. They mean the same thing. Nowadays a lot of restaurants do this to attract customers, but the 'bottomless' only applies to soft drinks. Do you know why?

**Li:** Because they are cheap! I guess no pubs in the whole of England would offer a bottomless service!

**Neil:** Shame about that! However, there is another common expression you may come across: 'a bottomless pit'. Let's listen to some examples:

### **Examples**

*It's a poor country with a bottomless pit of debt.*

*Jack will eat any food that's left over. His stomach is a bottomless pit!*

**Neil:** This expression is used to describe someone or something that always needs or wants more of whatever they're given, especially money.

**Li:** 明白了。'A bottomless pit' 就是无底洞的意思。What a vivid expression!

**Neil:** Finally the word 'bottomless' does have another meaning - not wearing trousers.

**Li:** That's what I thought, going naked. Now that you have explained, I must not make the same mistake again! Thanks Neil.

**Neil:** For more idiomatic expressions just log onto [www.bbcukchina.com](http://www.bbcukchina.com). Bye!

**Li:** Bye!