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- Neil:** Hi, Li. The car's outside. Are you ready for our camping trip? Have you packed?
- Li:** Yes. I'm excited, Neil. This is my first camping trip! I have the plastic forks and spoons... and plates... and the cups you told me to get...
- Neil:** Good. I have a couple of pans and a small gas cooker. And I've got the tent and sleeping bags...
- Li:** Oh Neil, how about my TV? I can't miss my favourite programmes!
- Neil:** A TV?! Well... OK.
- Li:** And... I can't sleep without my goose feather pillow. Actually, I use two of them.
- Neil:** Pillows? OK...
- Li:** And chairs.... We have to take my comfortable chair. And... and my lovely soft rug.
- Neil:** A rug?! What?! You want to take everything but the kitchen sink!
- Li:** Oh, the sink? I might need a sink, Neil, but I think it might be difficult to move it. Unless I try to... well, I could call a plumber...
- Neil:** No plumber, Li! We're not taking a plumber camping! In English, when we say 'take everything but the kitchen sink', we mean take far more things than we need.
- Li:** Ah. 原来 'take everything but the kitchen sink' 就是说'把所有能带的东西都带上', 意思就是带的东西太多, 没必要。这么说你觉得我打算带去野营的东西太多了?
- Neil:** Yes. 'Everything but the kitchen sink' is the expression in this edition of Authentic Real English. Now let's hear some examples of how it's used.

Examples

When Emma went on holiday to Greece, she took everything but the kitchen sink. She had to pay a lot extra at the airport!

Peter went to London for the weekend with a huge bag of things – clothes, computers, his special shampoo... He really took everything but the kitchen sink!

Li: Oh. No sink then. I think I'm ready to go Neil.

(A sudden clap of thunder)

Neil: Oh, no!

Li: What is it?

Neil: A storm is coming! That's not great for camping. I think this trip will have to wait, Li.

Li: No problem. We can go camping another time. Why don't you enjoy my comfortable chair?

Neil: Oh, let me just sit down here. Mmm... it is quite comfortable, isn't it?

Li: Mmm... Who needs camping after all! You watch some TV while I go and wash some dishes in my nice and shiny... kitchen sink. Bye.

Neil: Bye.