Food Vocabulary and Shopping in a Chinese Supermarket

..折​ (...zhé) % discount  
...元两件​ (...yuán liǎng jiàn) Buy two for ##RMB

**Useful Phrases for the Supermarket**

请问...在哪儿​? (qǐng wèn...zài nǎr?) Where is the ....?

请问这个多少钱​? (qǐng wèn zhè ge duō shao qián) How much is this?

请问...还有吗​? (qǐng wèn...hái yǒu ma?) Are there anymore?

可以帮我切一下吗​? (kě yǐ bāng wǒ qiē yī xià ma?) Can you cut it for me?

可以帮我称一下这个吗​?(kěyǐbāngwǒchēngyīxiàma?) Canyouweighthis please?

重量​ **(zhòng liàng) Weights** (公)克​ (gōng kè) gram

斤​ (jīn) 500g  
公斤​ (gōng jīn) 1kg

**Food and Drink Vocabulary** 饮料​ **(y**ǐ**n liào) Drinks**

茶​ (chá) tea  
咖啡​ (kā fēi) coffee  
橙汁​ (chéng zhī) Orange juice 啤酒​ (pí jiǔ) Beer

乳制品​ **(r**ǔ **zhì p**ǐ**n) Dairy** 牛奶​ (niú nǎi) milk

酸奶​ (suān nǎi) yoghurt  
黄油​ (huáng yóu) butter  
奶酪​ (nǎi lào) cheese  
The borrowed word ​芝士​ (zhī shì) is also frequently used for the word ‘cheese’. 蛋​ (dàn) eggs

In China, there are many different kinds of eggs available to buy in the supermarket. The general word for egg in Chinese is 蛋 (dàn), but to specifically ask for ‘chicken eggs’ you must say ​鸡蛋​ (jī dàn).

蔬菜​ **(sh**ū **cài) Vegetables** 土豆​ (tǔ dòu) Potato

红萝卜​ (hóng luó bo) Carrots 菠菜​ (bō cài) Spinach  
白菜​ (bái cài) Cabbage

椰菜​ (yē cài) Broccoli/Cauliflower 水果​ **(shu**ǐ **gu**ǒ**) Fruit**

苹果​ (píng guǒ) Apples  
橙子​ (chéng zi) Oranges  
西瓜​ (xī guā) Watermelon  
柚子​ (yòu zi) Pomelo  
火龙果​ (huǒ lóng guǒ) Dragon fruit 李子​ (lǐ zi) Plums

香蕉​ (xiāng jiāo) Bananas 柠檬​ (níng méng) Lemons

梨子​ (lí zi) Pears

调味料​ **(tiáo wèi liào) Spices and Condiments** 盐​ (yán) Salt

大蒜​ (dà suàn) Garlic  
辣椒​ (là jiāo) Chili  
番茄酱​ (fān qié jiàng) Tomato Sauce/Ketchup 花生酱​ (huā shēng jiàng) Peanut Butter  
酱油​ (jiàng yóu) Soy Sauce

醋​ (cù) Vinegar  
烘焙，谷物​ **(h**ō**ng bèi, g**ǔ **wù) Baked Goods, Cereals &**

**Grains**

面包​ (miàn bāo) Bread  
蛋糕​ (dàn gāo) Cake  
饼干​ (bǐng gān) Cookies  
燕麦粥​ (yàn mài zhōu) Porridge/Oatmeal 面条​ (miàn tiáo) Noodles

大米​ (dà mǐ) Rice

Uncooked rice has a different name to cooked rice in Chinese. So, if you wish to buy a bag of uncooked rice in the supermarket use the bigram 大米 (dà mǐ). You can ask for cooked rice in a restaurant with the bigram ​米饭​ (mǐ fàn).

鱼肉​ **(yú ròu) Meat & Fish**

Although the character for ‘meat’ in Chinese is ​肉​ (ròu) if you see the character on a menu, or in the supermarket without another character such as ​牛​ (niú) ‘cow’ or ​鸭​ (yā) ‘duck’, then this probably means it is pork.

猪肉​ (zhū ròu) Pork 牛肉​ (niú ròu) Beef 鸭肉​ (yā ròu) Duck 鸡肉​ (jī ròu) Chicken 鱼​ (yú) Fish

日用品​ **(rì yòng p**ǐ**n) Household Goods** 厕纸​ (cè zhǐ) Toilet roll

肥皂​ (féi zào) Soap  
垃圾袋​ (lā jī dài) Rubbish bags 擦碗布​ (cā wǎn bù) Dish cloth 洗洁精​ (xǐ jié jīng) Washing liquid

**Other Vocabulary**

有机​ (yǒu jī) Organic

进口​ (jìn kǒu) Imported

国产​ (guó chǎn) Domestic