BEC Word List

Vocabulary List

Vocabulary and example	Write it
supplier n. /səˈplaɪə/ a company that provides goods or services to another company **Family:** supply (v./n.) **Use it with:** main supplier · reliable supplier We changed **suppliers** after three late deliveries.	
supply chain phrase /səˈplaɪ tʃeɪn/ all the steps and companies involved in making a product and delivering it **Use it with:** global supply chain A fire at one factory stopped the whole **supply chain**.	
logistics n. /ləˈdʒɪstɪks/ the planning and organisation of moving goods from place to place **Family:** logistical (adj.) **Use it with:** logistics company Our **logistics** team plans all deliveries to Europe.	
warehouse n. /ˈweəhaʊs/ a large building where goods are stored **Use it with:** warehouse manager · in the warehouse The goods stay in the **warehouse** until a customer orders them.	
stock n. /stɒk/ goods that a shop or company has available to sell **Family:** stock (v.) **Use it with:** in stock · out of stock · stock level That model is out of **stock** until June.	
inventory n. /ˈɪnvəntri/ a list of all the goods a company has, or the goods themselves **Use it with:** keep an inventory · inventory control We check the **inventory** at the end of every month.	

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shipment n. /ˈʃɪpmənt/

a load of goods sent together

Family: ship (v.) **Use it with:** a shipment of · delay a shipment **Tip:** Ship means send goods by any transport, not only by sea.

The next **shipment** arrives on Tuesday.

consignment n. /kənˈsaɪnmənt/

a quantity of goods sent to a person or place

Use it with: a consignment of

The **consignment** of shoes was damaged on the way.

delivery n. /dɪˈlɪvəri/

the act of taking goods to the person who ordered them

Family: deliver (v.) **Use it with:** delivery date · free delivery · late delivery

Delivery usually takes three working days.

dispatch v. /dɪˈspætʃ/

to send goods to a customer

Family: despatch (BrE alternative) **Use it with:** dispatch an order · dispatch date

Your order was **dispatched** this morning.

freight n. /freɪt/

goods carried by ship, plane, train or lorry

Use it with: air freight · freight charges

Freight costs have doubled since last year.

container n. /kənˈteɪnə/

a very large metal box used to carry goods on ships and lorries

Use it with: shipping container · container ship

The **container** is still at the port in Rotterdam.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

lead time phrase /liːd taɪm/

the time between ordering something and receiving it

Use it with: short lead time · reduce lead times

The **lead time** for new machines is twelve weeks.

just-in-time adj. /dʒʌst ɪn taɪm/

describes a system in which materials arrive only when they are needed

Family: JIT (abbr.) **Use it with:** just-in-time production

Just-in-time delivery means we keep very little stock.

track v. /træk/

to follow the progress of a delivery

Family: tracking (n.) **Use it with:** track an order · tracking number

You can **track** your parcel online.

in transit phrase /ɪn ˈtrænsɪt/

being carried from one place to another

The goods were damaged **in transit**.

courier n. /ˈkɜːrɪə/

a company or person that delivers documents and parcels quickly

Use it with: courier service · send by courier

A **courier** will collect the samples this afternoon.

haulage n. /ˈhɔːlɪdʒ/

the business of carrying goods by road

Family: haulier (n.) **Use it with:** haulage firm · road haulage

The **haulage** company has 80 lorries.

80

procurement n. /prəˈkjʊəmənt/

the process of buying goods and services for an organisation

Family: procure (v.) **Use it with:** procurement department

Procurement must approve every order over 50,000 yuan.

50,000

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

bulk n. /bʌlk/

a large quantity

Family: bulky (adj.) **Use it with:** buy in bulk · bulk order

Buying in **bulk** lowers the price per unit.

unit n. /ˈjuːnɪt/

a single item of a product

Use it with: per unit · unit cost

The price is 12 yuan per **unit**.
12

shortage n. /ˈʃɔːtɪdʒ/

a situation in which there is not enough of something

Family: short (adj.) **Use it with:** a shortage of · supply shortage

A **shortage** of chips delayed car production.

backlog n. /ˈbæklɒg/

work or orders that should have been done but are waiting

Use it with: clear a backlog

After the holiday, we had a **backlog** of 400 orders.
400

reliable adj. /rɪˈlaɪəbl/

able to be trusted to do what is expected

Family: reliability (n.) **Use it with:** reliable supplier · reliable service

We need a **reliable** courier for urgent parcels.

on schedule phrase /ɒn ˈʃedjuːl/

happening at the planned time

Family: schedule (n./v.) **Use it with:** behind schedule · ahead of schedule

The project is **on schedule** and on budget.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

fleet n. /fliːt/

a group of vehicles owned by one company

Use it with: a fleet of vehicles · company fleet

The firm is replacing its **fleet** of vans with electric ones.

distribution centre phrase /ˌdɪstrɪˈbjuːʃn ˈsentə/

a large building from which goods are sent to shops or customers

Family: distribution center (AmE)

The new **distribution centre** serves all of eastern China.

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