

# A Dictionary of Diyari, South Australia

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## *Preface*

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Diyari is an Australian Aboriginal language spoken by a few Dieri people living at various places in the north-east of South Australia and in Broken Hill, New South Wales. Although the language is no longer in regular use among Dieri families there is still a lot of knowledge about the language held by community members who are keen to see it preserved and passed on to younger generations.

This book is a draft reference dictionary of Diyari based primarily on materials collected during my fieldwork on the language in 1974-77 and subsequent research. A companion grammar is also available, and a text collection is in preparation. This book will be revised and extended as further work on the language is undertaken, based on recordings made by myself and Luise Hercus in the 1970s, together with new materials provided by current speakers and Dieri community members.

I dedicate this book to the Dieri *karna*.

*London and Canberra*

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## *Acknowledgements*

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This study would not have been possible without the interest and help of the speakers of Diyari I worked with in the 1970s, together with members of the Dieri Aboriginal Corporation since 2010. I owe a particular debt of gratitude to the late Ben Murray, Rosa Warren and the Frieda Merrick who spent so much time teaching me Diyari and sharing with me their memories of “the old days”. I hope this book goes some way towards repaying their enthusiasm for their language.

The Australian National University financed my fieldwork on Diyari and neighbouring languages from 1974 to 1977, and the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies provided a grant to check bibliographical resources at the Lutheran Archives, Adelaide. Work on this book has been carried out over many years, particularly while I was a Visiting Researcher at the Language Typology Research Centre, La Trobe University (February to June 2010) and the Australian National Dictionary Centre at the Australian National University, Canberra (January 2013). For sponsorship and financial support during these times I am grateful to Professor Randy La Polla (La Trobe) and Dr Amanda Laugesen and Professor Jane Simpson (ANU). I am also grateful to the Dieri Aboriginal Corporation for providing funds from their Indigenous Languages Support grant to provide replacement teaching for me for the period October 2012 to March 2013. My thanks to SOAS, University of London for granting me research leave for January-December 2010 and January-March 2013 which has provided me with time free for research.

Bob Dixon introduced me to the study of Australian languages and supervised my PhD research on Diyari. Luise Hercus introduced me to the Dieri community and has been a constant guide over almost 40 years, tirelessly sharing with me her detailed knowledge of Aboriginal languages and traditions and the cultural and physical landscape of northern South Australia. Greg Wilson introduced me to members of the Dieri Aboriginal Corporation in 2010 and has been a constant source of advice and guidance, especially on applied linguistics and language teaching matters.

## *Abbreviations and conventions*

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- separates word roots and endings

For part of speech specifications the following abbreviations are used:

<i>adj</i>	adjective
<i>adv</i>	adverb
<i>aux</i>	auxiliary verb
<i>int</i>	interjection
<i>n</i>	noun
<i>postinfl</i>	post-inflectional affix
<i>preddet</i>	predicate determiner
<i>pro</i>	pronoun
<i>vdi</i>	ditransitive verb
<i>vi</i>	intransitive verb
<i>vtr</i>	transitive verb

## *Guide to pronunciation*

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The following notes are intended as a guide to the approximate pronunciation of Diyari for the non-specialist reader. There is a more detailed technical discussion in the companion grammar.

*a* is like *u* in English *cut*

*i* is like *i* in English *bit*

*u* is like *oo* in English *book*

*p, t, k, l, m, n, y* and *w* can be pronounced as in English

*th* is like *th* in English *thin*

*ty* is like *ch* in English *church*

*lh* and *nh* are pronounced like *l* and *n*, except with the tongue tip in the same position (touching the bottom and top teeth) as for *th*. The *l* in the English word *health* is like *lh* and the *n* in *tenth* is like *nh*

*ng* is the single sound written an *ng* in English words like *sing*. It occurs at the beginning of words in Diyari and is sometimes difficult for English speakers to hear and say. Practise saying *ngapa* ‘water’ by adding *apa* to *sing* and then dividing off and dropping the *si-*

*ny* is like *n* and *y* pronounced simultaneously, similar to *ni* in English *onion*

*r* is like English (especially American English) *r*, as in *barren*

*r* is pronounced as a very short *d* sound, similar to *d* between two vowels in English fast speech; Diyari *kirri* ‘intelligent’ sounds like English *kiddy*

*rr* is a rolled *r*, like Scottish English

*rd* is like English *d* but further back and with the tongue tip turned back slightly

*rl, rn* and *rt* are like *l, n* and *t* except pronounced further back in the mouth with the tongue tip turned back slightly

## D - d

**daka-rna** *vtr.* stab, stick, spear, punch, make (boomerang), grind (seed), plait (string).

**dakatharri-rna** *vi.* stab oneself, spear oneself.

**daku** *n.* sandhill.

**dalki-rna** *ve.* disobey. *Note:* takes locative case-marked complement **nhawu dalkiyi pulangu ya nhungkarni ngandrinhi** His disobeyed them and his mother.

**daltyi** *n.* rattle.

**daltinga-rna** *vi.* make a rattling noise.

**dama-rna** *vtr.* cut. **nganthi damarna nhayipali** Cut the meat with a knife.

**damatharri-rna** *vi.* cut oneself.

**dampu** *adj.* round.

**danga-rna** *vtr.* chase away, hunt away. **Yara wapanimayi, dangardangarna.** Come over here and hunt (him) away.

**danthu** *adj.* soft.

**dapa** *n.* sick, ill, sore.

**dapari-rna** *vi.* be wounded, be sick. **yini daparirna warayi wardayari yinha damarna warayi** You were wounded where you were cut.

**darla** *n.* skin.

**dariku** *adj.* clear.

**darni-rna** *vi.* bid farewell to, say goodbye. *Note:* person one says goodbye to is in the locative case

**darnka-rna** *vtr.* find. *Note:* idiom **kupa darnkarna** (literally 'find a child') for 'to give birth' **Nhandru ngantayayi kupa darnkarda purrilhali.** She was about to give birth.

**darra-rna** *vtr.* kindle, light a fire. *See:* **thurru.**

**darri** *n.* step (noise).

**darurdarru** *n.* seagull. *Laridae sp..*



**dawa-rna** *vtr.* hunt away.

**dawardawa-rna** *vtr.* prevent.

**dika-rna** *vdi.* call, name. **Thanali dikayi nhinha Frome karirri.** They call it the Frome Creek.

**dityi** *n.* sun, day. *See:* **kalkawarra thurararna, thangkuthangkuparna wupalha, dityitha yarlawa nhawu durnkarnanthu, waparnanhilha** (They) slept to go in the morning, going before the sun had come up over there.

**dityi thandra** *n.* star.

**dityi waka** *n.* star.

**diya-rna** *vtr.* pelt, hit with missile.

**diyari** *n.* Diyari. name of language and group. *See:* **ngamini. diyari yathamayi** Speak Diyari! **nganhi diyari yathayi yingkangu** I talk to you in Diyari.

**dukara-rna** *vtr.* take out, take off. **ya kartiwarru partyarna mandrandru dukararna** And took all the kartiwarru lizard out of (his) stomach. **Nhulu dukaranda purriyi yingkangu yatharnda purrilhali.** He would take it off to speak to you. **Ngardanhi mara winmarnda purriyi, darla partyarnda dukaranda purrirndanhi.** Then (I) put my hand in (the boiling water) and took off all the skin.

**Dup-** *redup.* reduplication. **thariyali nganthi warduwardungankarna, thariyali waniyi, thayilha** Breaking up the meat, the young man began to eat (it).

**durllkaninha** *n.* Dulkanina Station.

**durllkurru** *n.* swamp.

**durnka-rna** *vi.* emerge, come out, go out, rise (of sun or moon). **Yeah, nhawu durnkingayi kupakupa purirnda purrirnda.** Yes, he came out falling down.

**durnkinga-rna** *vi.* come out going past.

**durnkalka-rna** *vtr.* take out, bring out.

**durru** *adj.* hemispherical.

## K - k

**-ka** *postinfl.* specific reference post-inflectional suffix. **kakuya kardiya thurru yarkiyi nhawuka warritha** "That is my sister and brother-in-law's fire burning far off."

**kaka** *n.* uncle, mother's brother, father's sister's husband.  
*See:* **papa.**

**kaku** *n.* older sister. *See:* **nhiyi; ngathata.**

**kalapa-rna** *vtr.* answer. **thariyali kalapayi** The young man answered (her).

**kaldra** *n.* kind of necklet.

**kaldra** *n.* sound of human voices in distance.

**kaldri** *adj.* salty.

**ngapa kaldri** *n.* alcohol, beer.  
*Note:* literally 'salty water'

**kalhu** *Variant:* **kadlhu.** *n.* liver.

**kalkawarra** *n.* evening. *See:* **dityi; thinka.**



**kalta** *n.* blue-tongue lizard. *Tiliqua sp.*



**kalthi** *n.* spear. **tharkayi nhawu kalthinthu karna** The man is standing with a spear.

**kami** *n.* grandmother, father's mother.  
*See: ngardarda; kanhini.*

**kanangarra** *n.* seed of manyurra.

**kandru** *n.* snore.

**kandrunga-rna** *vi.* snore.

**kangu** *n.* sweat.

**kangu ngaka-rna** *vi.* sweat.

**kanhini** *Variant: kadnhini. n.*  
grandmother, mother's mother.  
*See: ngardarda; thanthi; kami.*

**kani** *Variant: kadni. n.* stumpy-tail lizard. bluetongue lizard, shingleback. *Tiliqua rugosa.* **ya kardiyali wama ya kapiirri ya kadni nandrayi** And the brother-in-law killed carpet snake, and goanna, and frill-necked lizard.



**kanku** *n.* boy. *See: mankarra; thari.*

**kanpu** *n.* booming sound.

**kanpunga-rna** *vi.* make a booming sound.

**kantha** *n.* grass, herbage.

**kantu** *n.* wallaby. *Macropus species.*

**kantyi** *part.* can, could. **Kantyi mindriya nhani nhakaldra nhawu wakararnanhi.** She could have run (the distance) if he had come back again.

**kanungka** *Variant: kadnungka. n.* spectacled hare wallaby. *Lagorchestes conspicillatus.*



**kanya** *n.* ash of fire.

**kanyangarri** *n.* jail.

**kanyangarriyanganka-rna** *vtr.*

make go to jail. **Yini nhakaldra wakararnanhi, ngathu marlarlu yinha kanyangarriyangankalha nganayi.** 'If you come again, I'll truly put you in jail.'

**kaparra** *n.* boss, root. *See: mayatha.*

**kaparramanha** *n.* Kopperamanna.

**kaparrawu** *int.* come here!

**kapawu** *int.* look out!

**kapi** *n.* egg. **miri kariyamayi warlaya, kapi manilha** "Climb up above to the nest to get the eggs!"

**kapiirri** *n.* goanna. *Varanus gouldii.* **ya kardiyali wama ya kapiirri ya kadni nandrayi** And the brother-in-law killed carpet snake, and goanna, and frill-necked lizard.



**kapitha** *n.* bandicoot.  
*Peramelemorphia.*



**kapurra** *n.* armpit.

**kara** *part.* perhaps, maybe. **yini kara wapalha nganayi ngingki yara ngalantha ngingki yara waparnanhi** Maybe you go that way and we go this way.

**karakara** *n.* close, nearby. **nhayirna karakara first thurru nhulu pularni, wardayari pula thurararna parkarnanhi, thupu nhayirna thangkuthangkuparna** At first (he) saw their fire close by where they were sleeping as they went along, watching the smoke in the morning. **Pula wakarayi nhantuyali, thana mankarra pirkirnanhi pakarna karakaraldramatha.** They came on horseback, right close to where the girls were playing.

**karari** *n.* today, now, soon.  
*See:* **thangkuparna; waldrawirti. walya karlkamayi, karari wama thayilha** "Wait a while to eat carpet snake (later) today."

**kararru** *n.* moiety name. matrilineal moiety inherited from mother.  
*See:* **mathari.**

**kardarrungka** *n.* sulphur-crested cockatoo. *Cacatua galerita.*



**kardi** *n.* brother-in-law, sister's husband. **ya kankuyali pakarna ngantuyayi wapalha kakunhi yarla kakunhi kardinhi** And a boy also wanted to go together with his elder sister and brother-in-law.

**kari-rna** *vi.* climb, climb on. *Note:* place climbed is in locative case **Nhawu muntharlu karirna tharayi.** He climbed up alone.

**kari-rna** *vtr.* follow, chase.

**karirri** *n.* creek, river. **Ngayani pirkirna karirranhi nhaka.** We were playing in the creek there.

**karka-rna** *vi.* call, call out to. *Note:* person called is in locative case

**karkakarka-rna** *vtr.* invite.

**karku** *n.* red ochre. *See:* **paru.**

**karla** *adj.* empty.

**karlarla** *adv.* in turn, in return.

**karlathurra** *n.* Australian bustard, wild turkey. *Ardeotis australis*.



**karlipilhi** *n.* butterfly.

**karlka-rna** *vtr.* wait, wait for. **walya karlkamayī, karaḡi wama thayilha** "Wait a while to eat carpet snake (later) today."

**karlkatharri-rna** *vi.* be waiting for.  
*Note:* person waited for is in locative case

**karlku** *n.* bulrush.

**karlu** *n.* testicles. *See:* **kini**.

**karna** *n.* person, human being.  
*See:* **wilha; mathari; walpala**.

**karpa-rna** *vtr.* sew.

**karra-rna** *vtr.* tie, tie up. **Pula kurlkungarna ngariyi, nhantu karrarna**. They jumped down, tying the horses up.

**karrakarra-rna** *vi.* touch, feel. *Note:* thing or person touched is in locative case **Wata nganhi ngantyarda karrakarralha nhangkangu**. I didn't want to touch her.

**karrapana** *n.* marsupial mouse. *Note:* pronunciation uncertain

**karrawara** *n.* wedge-tailed eagle, eaglehawk. partnered with **kawalka** 'crow' in mythological stories. *Aquila audax*.

**karri-rna** *vtr.* chase.

**karta** *n.* crack (noise).

**kartanga-rna** *vi.* make a cracking noise.

**karti** *adj.* raw, unripe.

**kartiwaru** *n.* type of small lizard.  
**ngarla kankuyali windri nandrayi kartiwaru** But the boy only killed a kartiwaru lizard.

**kartyi-rna** *vi.* turn, go around, come around. **Wararamayi, nhawu kartyirnanthu**. "Leave him to come around".

**kartyilka-rna** *vtr.* turn something.  
**"Ngalyi marla kartyilkarnda purriyamayi."** Turn it a little more.

**kartyimalka-rna** *vtr.* turn over.

**karuwa** *n.* jealousy.

**kata** *n.* louse.

**kathi** *n.* clothing, skin rug. *See:* **wirri**.  
**ngardanhi kathi dukaranda purriyi, parlu waparnda purrilhali, nganhi thungkali wirrirnda purrirnda** Then they would take off their clothes and walk about naked wearing rotten meat.

**kathi-rna** *vi.* climb, climb on. *Note:* place climbed is in locative case  
**Ngarda nhawu kanku kathi, pirta ngarla mirirna thararnanhi** Then the boy climbed but the tree went up and up (at the same time).  
**Nhantunhi kathi, ngardanhi waparna kurrarna, thukatharrirna kurrarna**. (They) climbed on their horses and went away, riding away.

**katithandra** *n.* Lake Eyre.

**katu** *n.* windbreak.

**katyakatya-rna** *vi.* hurt, be in pain.  
**Katyakatyarnda martyirnda purrirnda yindrarda purrirnda.** She called out in pain and cried.

**katyakatyatharri-rna** *vi.* hurt oneself. **kupa puriyi ngardatha nhawu katyakatyatharrirna** The child fell down and hurt himself.

**katyi** *n.* spear.

**kawalka** *n.* crow. partnered with **karrawara** 'eaglehawk' in mythology.



**kawu** *int.* yes. **kawu, matya nganhi** "Yes, I am alright."

**kawupa-rna** *vtr.* inform, tell.

**kawuwarna** *int.* that's correct!

**kilankila** *n.* galah. *Eolophus roseicapilla*.



**kilaparra** *n.* bony bream fish. *Nematalosa erebi*.

**kilpa** *n.* cold. *See: malthi*.

**kilpa waldra** *n.* year.

**kilpari-rna** *vi.* disbelieve.

**kilthi** *n.* juice, stew.

**kiltya-rna** *vtr.* peel.

**kiltyatharri-rna** *vi.* peel off.

**kima** *adj.* swollen.

**kimari-rna** *vi.* swell up.

**kingka-rna** *vi.* laugh. *Note:* person or thing laughed at is in the locative case

**kingkalka-rna** *vtr.* laugh at (someone or something).

**kini** *Variant: kidni. n.* penis. *See: kirla. Yini kini wandra*

**nhantuyari, dangkirdangkiyari.** 'Your penis is big and thick like a horse, like a little donkey.'

**kintha** *n.* shrimp.

**kinthala** *n.* dog. **Nhaka ngathu ngankarda purriyi nhungkangu panturanhi minhanhiya wardayari nhawu kinthala kinthala wararani patika nganayi.** I worked there on the boundary where the paddock that keeps the dogs out is.

**kipara-rna** *vi.* urinate. *See: kuna-rna.*

**kipara** *n.* urine.

**kira** *n.* boomerang.



**kirla** *n.* vagina. *See: kini.*

**kirlawirlpaninha** *n.* Killalpaninna.

**kirli-rna** *vi.* dance. *See: wima.*

**kirri** *n.* intelligent, smart.

**kiringanka-rna** *vtr.* teach, make smart.

**kirriji-rna** *vi.* learn, become smart.

**-ku** *postinfl.* sensory evidence post-inflectional suffix. **aa**  
**nhawuwaku thurru**  
**yarkiyarkitharriyi warritha**  
"Oh, that must be the fire burning far off."

**kuku** *n.* hollow of tree.

**kuku** *adj.* overturned.

**kukula** *n.* stick-nest rat. *Leporillus apicalis*.



**kukunka** *n.* kind of hawk.

**kukuru** *n.* stick type. a kind of curved throwing stick used by males in a competitive game.

**kulyakulya** *adj.* green, yellow.

**kuma** *n.* news.

**kumarri** *n.* blood.

**kuna** *Variant:* **kudna**. *n.* faeces, shit.

**kuna-rna** *vi.* defecate, shit on.

*See:* **kipara-rna**.

**kunalka-rna** *vtr.* shit on. **payali**  
**nhinha kunalkarna**  
**warrayi** "The birds have shat on him."

**kunankarri** *Variant:* **kudnankarri**. *n.* north.

**kunapintyinara** *n.* sand fly.

**kunarri** *Variant:* **kudnarri**. *n.* Cooper Creek.

**kundru** *n.* snore.

**kundrunga-rna** *vi.* snore.

**kundrukundru** *n.* cough, cold in head.

**kungka-rna** *vi.* limp.

**kungkakungka-rna** *vi.* grunt.

**kungku** *adj.* lame.

**kunki** *n.* doctor.

**kunkithiri** *n.* crayfish.

**kunmi** *n.* mist, haze.

**kunngarra** *n.* sound of movement in distance.

**kunthi** *n.* mosquito.

**kuntyirri** *n.* kind of bush.

**kupa** *n.* child, small.

**kuparru** *n.* young of animal.

**ngardanhi thana paya**  
**kuparru nhayiyi** They they saw some young birds (in a nest in a box tree).

**kupula** *n.* grog, alcohol. **ngayani**  
**nhingkirda ngamayi yawarra**  
**yatharna wata ngathu**  
**kupula thapayi ngalyingalyi**  
**ngathu thapathapayi wata**  
**nganhi parrawarrayi** When we sit here talking I don't drink grog, I drink a little and don't get drunk.

**kurda-rna** *vi.* fall (of rain).

*See:* **thalara**.

**kurdalka-rna** *vtr.* rain on.

**kurdakurda** *n.* night hawk.

**kurdu** *n.* hole in ground. *See:* **paku-rna**; **mingka**. **kurdu**  
**pakuyamay** Dig a hole!

**kuri** *n.* theft, stealing.

**kurikantyi** *n.* thief.

**kuri** *n.* mussel, mussel shell.

**kurkurku** *n.* kind of bird.

**kurlawarra** *n.* kind of large boomerang.



**kurlikirri** *adj.* clean.

**kurlirka-rna** *vtr.* clean, cleanse.

**kurlirkatharri-rna** *vi.* clean oneself. **Nganhi maṛa kurlirkatharrirnda purrirnda.** I washed my hands.

**kurlika-rna** *vtr.* save.

**kurlunga-rna** *Variant: 1A. vi.* jump.

**Pula kurlkungarna ngariyi, nhantu karrarna.** They jumped down, tying the horses up.

**kurlkungalka-rna** *vtr.* jump with.

**kuripi** *n.* subincision ceremony.

**kurndi** *adj.* bent.

**kurndikurndi** *adj.* crooked, bent.

**kurnu** *n.* one, another. *See:* **mandru;**

**parkulu. thuraṛayi muka kinthala kurnunhi** He is sleeping with another dog.

**kurpaṛu** *n.* Australian magpie.

*Cracticus tibicen.*



**kurra-yi** *vi.* go away. *Note:* only occurs in compound verb constructions indicating motion away **ngarda pula waparna kurrayi** Then they went away. **nharingankarna kurrayi** (They) killed (both of them).

**kurra-rna** *vtr.* put down, put in, put on. **waparnarlu, nguraya waparnarlu, thurru manirnanhi kakuyali kardiyali, ngura kurralha, thuraṛalha** (They) kept going, going to the camp where the sister and brother-in-law were getting wood to make a camp to sleep. **muku kurrarnda purrirnda wanthiyi mulhanhi** (They) used to put a bone in (their) noses long ago.

**kurraka-rna** *vtr.* release, let go. **Yundru wata nganha kurrakarnanhi nganhi yulyanhi yathalha nganayi.** 'If you don't let me go, I'll tell the police.'

**kurrupa-rna** *vi.* advise.

**kurukuru** *adj.* secret. **kakuyali ngardanhi kurukuru yingkiyi nhinha nhangkarni ngathata kanku** Then the elder sister secretly gave (some meat) to her younger brother.

**kurutharra-rna** *vi.* forget. *Note:* person or thing forgotten is in the dative case

**kutha** *n.* angry.

**kuthari-rna** *vi.* become angry. **pula kuthariyi** The two of them became angry.

**kuthi-rna** *vi.* disappear.

**kuthikuthi-rna** *vi.* deny (doing something).

**kuti** *n.* black swan. *Cygnus atratus*.



**kutya** *n.* eyelash.

**kutya** *n.* feather.

**kutyi** *n.* devil.

**kutyikutyi** *n.* blue long-tailed wren, superb fairy wren. *Malurus cyaneus*.



**kuwu** *adj.* ignorant, stupid. *See: parti.*

## M - m

**makita** *n.* gun, rifle. *Note:* loan from English 'musket'

**malhantyi** *n.* bad.

**-mali** *vderiv.* reciprocal derivational suffix.

**malka** *n.* mulga tree. *Acacia aneura*.



**malka** *n.* stripe, mark.

**malkamalka** *adj.* striped, spotted.

**thara malka** *n.* policeman. *Note:* literally 'thigh mark', named for the stripe down the leg of 19th century policemen's trousers

**malka mandru** *n.* Mulka Station.

*Note:* literally 'two marks'

**maltharra** *n.* emu feather shoes worn by **thinanipa**. *See: thinanipa.*

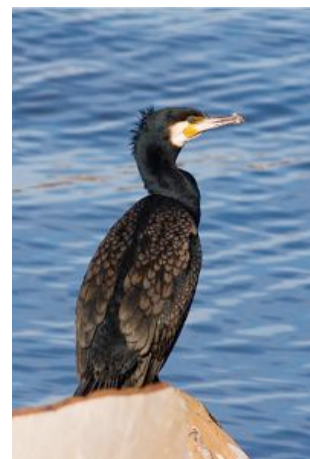
**malthi** *n.* cool.

**malthinganka-rna** *vtr.* cool, make cool. **ya malthingankarna** And cooled (it).

**malthiri-rna** *vi.* become cool, urinate. *Note:* euphemism for **kipara-rna** 'urinate'

**malthu** *n.* bag.

**malyurra** *n.* cormorant, black shag. *Phalacrocorax carbo.*



**mama-rna** *vtr.* take away from, snatch, steal.

**mandra** *n.* stomach. **ya kartiwaru partyarna mandrandru dukararna** And took all the kartiwaru lizard out of (his) stomach.

**mandra-rna** *vtr.* grasp, hold.

**thina mandrani** *n.* trap (literally 'something which grasps').

**mandrantyu** *n.* pregnant. *Note:* perhaps derived from **mandra** 'stomach' and an old comitative form? **Nhani mandrantyu nganayi nganarnda purrirnda.** She was pregnant.

**mandru** *n.* two. *See:* **kurnu; parkulu. ya kankuyali pakarna ngantyayi wupalha kakunhi yarla kakunhi kardinhi** And a boy also wanted to go together with his elder sister and brother-in-law.

**mangathandra** *n.* head. **Ngardanhi nhinha kupakupa mangathandra tharduparnda thikarnda purriyi thalkungankarda purrirnda.** Then I pushed the baby's head back, straightening it.

**mangawarru** *n.* widow. *Note:* possibly derived from **manga** 'head' and **warru** 'white' because of the white gypsum caps placed on widow's heads  
*See:* **manthaka.**

**mangka** *adj.* opposite direction.

**mangurrani** *n.* Mungerannie Station.

**mani-rna** *vtr.* get, take, pick up. **miri kariyamayi warlaya, kapi manilha** "Climb up above to the nest to get the eggs!"

**mani** *n.* money.

**mankarra** *n.* girl. *See:* **kanku; thari.**

**manki-rna** *vi.* be glad, pleased.

**manthaka** *n.* widower.

*See:* **mangawarru.**

**manya** *n.* firestick. *Note:* usually **thurru manya**

**manyu** *n.* good. **"Minhandru yundru wata manyuyali nhayirnda purriyi?"** "Why didn't you look after her properly?"

**manyurra** *n.* kind of seed.

**marā** *n.* hand, finger. **kardi marā wirrina kankuya marnanhi** The brother-in-law's hand went into the boy's mouth.

**marā pirri** *n.* fingernail.

**-marā** *nderiv.* kin proprietary suffix, creates non-singular nominal with group reference. *See:* **-nthu.**

**nhuwamarā** *n.* married couple.

**marāmulhurunha** *n.* Muloorina Station.

**marānguka-rna** *vtr.* help, assist, give a hand to. **"Yundru ngantyayi nganha marāngukarnda purrilhali?"** "Do you want to help me?"

**marānkarra** *n.* spider.

**marapu** *n.* many. **ngarda nhulu pulurlu nhayiyi then thurru, warrithalha pula waparnanhi, dityi marapu ngamarna nhaka nhawu** Then he could not see the fire any longer, because they had gone too far away as he sat there for many days.

**marda** *n.* rock, stone, hill, money. **nganhi purirna warayi mardanhi kara minhanhi kara mangathandrāli** I fell on a rock or something with my head.

**mardi** *adj.* heavy.



**mardu** *n.* taste, tasty, enjoyable.

**mardu** *n.* totem. matrilineal totem inherited from mother.

**marduka** *n.* matrilineal ceremonial totem. *See: pintharra.*

**marka-rna** *vi.* crawl.

**markara** *n.* yellow belly fish, golden perch. *Macquaria ambigua.*



**marla** *adv.* true, real, very, more.

**thurruthurru marla** "It's very hot." **kardiyali marla dukarayi**

The brother-in-law took more (meat) out (of the boy's mouth).

**mirimiri marla nhawuparra** "He is right at the very top."

**nhulu pirna thaparna warayi**

**nhawuya marla**

**parrawarrarnanhi**

**nhungkangu** He drank a lot, more than me.

**marna** *n.* mouth, door. **kardi mara wirrirna kankuya marnanhi**

The brother-in-law's hand went into the boy's mouth. **ngardanhi**

**nhungkarni kardi mara**

**wirriyi, dukaralha**

**nhungkangundru**

**marnandru** Then his brother-in-law's hand went in and took (it) out of his mouth.

**marna miri** *adj.* full.

**marna thandra** *n.* tooth.

**marna tharka-rna** *vi.* yawn. *Note:* literally 'mouth stand'

**marndawardunha** *n.* Mundowdna Station.

**marnduri-rna** *vi.* mix with. *Note:* the thing or person with which something mixes is in the locative case

**marni** *n.* fat.

**marnka** *adv.* slowly. **Nhawuya marnka durnkarda purriyi.** "He will come out slowly."

**marnka-rna** *vtr.* find.

**marnpi** *n.* bronzewing pigeon. *Phaps chalcoptera.*



**marnpiawi** *n.* Murnpeowie Station.

**marpu** *adj.* many, a lot.

**marra-rna** *vi.* glow (of fire).

**marramarratharri-rna** *vi.* keep on glowing, continue glowing.

**pirla nhawuya matya**

**marramarratharriylhaku**

"These coals are glowing alright."

**marra** *adj.* new, fresh.

**marralyi** *n.* red. *See: maru.*

**marri** *n.* Marree. *Note:* name of place in northern South Australia; this is English form reborrowed back into Diyari **Yini nhakaldra nhingkirda wakararnanhi, nganhi marriya mindrilha nganayi, yulya manilha.** 'If you come here again I'll run to Maree to get the police.'

**marru** *n.* wide.

**martyi-rna** *vi.* call out, cry out, scream. *See:* **yindra-rna**.  
**Katyakatyarnda martyirnda purrirnda yindrarda purrirnda.** She called out in pain and cried.

**maṛu** *n.* black. *See:* **marralyi**.

**matha-rna** *vtr.* bite. **tyutyuyali nganha matharna warayi** The snake bit me.

**-matha** *postinfl.* identified information. **ngathata nhawumatha** "That's (our) younger brother".

**mathapurda** *n.* old man. *Note:* loan from Wangkangurru  
**Mathapurda Salim Khan nhulu mankarra yingkirda Sher Khannha** Salim Khan gave his daughter to Sher Khan.

**mathari** *n.* man. **Mathari nhulu nhaka ngankarda purriyi nhaka nhuwanthali.** There was a man working there with his wife.

**mathari** *n.* moiety name.

**matharri** *n.* initiated man. *See:* **wilha**.

**matya** *part.* already, now, enough, OK. **mayi, yini matyamatha yini?** "Well, are you alright?"  
**matyatha yarkiyilhaku nhawu thurru** This fire has just been burning.

**mawa** *n.* hunger. *Note:* used in ergative case with **ngana** to mean 'hungry' *See:* **thardi ngali kankuyali mawali nganayi** "We two are hungry, the boy and I."

**mayarru** *n.* marsupial mouse.

**mayarru mitha** *n.* Mira Mitta Station.

**mayatha** *n.* boss. *Note:* from English 'master'

**mayi** *int.* well then, alright. **ngaldra mayi wapayi thangkuparna, nhayilha** "Let's go tomorrow to see (him)."  
**mayi, ngaldra nhinha yinkamatha minhayangankalha** "Well, let's make this string something or other."

**-mayi** *postinfl.* emphatic. *Note:* emphatic suffix used with imperative verbs

**mikiṛi** *n.* native well. found in the Simpson Desert country.

**mila** *n.* hook.

**milka-rna** *vtr.* pinch.

**milki** *n.* eye. *See:* **putyu**.

**milki dityi** *n.* blackout, unconsciousness.

**milpirri** *n.* forehead.

**mimi** *n.* lip.

**mindraṛi** *n.* kind of corroboree.

**mindri-rna** *vi.* run. **nhawu kanku ngupaṛa mindrina** The boy ran ahead. **Ngardanhi nganhi yathayi "wata mindriya nhungkangu!"** Then I said "Don't run after him".

**mindrilka-rna** *vtr.* run with.

**mingka** *n.* hole in ground.

*See:* **kurdu**.

**minha** *n.* what, something, nothing.

**minhanganka-rna** *vtr.* do what?

**minari-rna** *vi.* become what?, what happens?

**mintyi-rna** *vi.* shine.

**miri** *n.* above, top. **miri kaṛiyamayi warlaya, kapi manilha** "Climb up above to the nest to get the eggs!"

**miriwiri** *n.* maggot.

**mirka** *n.* ant. **pirtanhi kurramayi mirkali thananha thayiyathi** Hang it in the tree or the ants might eat them.

**mirtya** *n.* noise.

**mirtyanthu** *adj.* noisy. **kupa mirtyamirtyanthu** The children are noisy.

**mitha** *n.* ground, earth, country, land, place. *See:* **thaka**.

**robertstownandru nganhi waparnda purriyi Waikerie mithaya.** From Robertstown I went to Waikerie.

**muka** *n.* sleep, asleep. *See:* **thurara-rna. ngurra muka thurarayi pirtanhi pungalhanhi** He always sleeps under the tree in the shade.

**muku** *n.* bone. *See:* **puwa**.

**mulha** *n.* nose, face.

**mulhapara** *n.* top-knot pigeon. *Lopholaimus antarcticus.*



**mungara** *n.* soul.

**mungka-rna** *vi.* coo.

**muntha** *n.* self. **Nhawu muntharlu karirna tharayi.** He climbed up alone. **"Alright Mr Muray, ngathu munthalha ngankarda purriyi."** "Alright Mr Murray, I'll do it myself". **Marlarlu nhawu muntha kartiyi.** He really did come around by himself.

**muntya** *n.* sick, ill. **Wilha nhaniya muntya parrarnda purriyi.** The woman, she is lying down sick.

**muntyu** *n.* fly.

**muntyurrunga** *n.* blowfly.

**munyi** *n.* owl.

**muramura** *n.* ancestral being.

**murda-rna** *vi.* stop, finish, end.

**matya murdayi** That's the finish. **Yaruka nhani murdayi, yatharna nhungkangu.** That's how she finished talking to him.

**murlpa** *n.* crane.

**murlu** *n.* crab.

**murnamiri** *n.* full.

**murnampirri** *n.* chest.

**murruwa-rna** *vtr.* scratch.

**mutaka** *n.* car.

**muya** *adj.* dry.

**nandra-rna** *vtr.* hit, strike, kill.  
**ngarla kankuyali windri**  
**nandrayi kartiwaru** But the  
 boy only killed a kartiwaru  
 lizard. **mayi, kiralha manirna**  
**wanthiyi pulali,**  
**nandranandralhatha nhinha**  
 Well, they got a boomerang and  
 hit him all over.

**-ndru** *case.* ablative case suffix. **ya**  
**kartiwaru partyarna**  
**mandrandru dukararna** And  
 took all the kartiwaru lizard out  
 of (his) stomach.

**ngaka-rna** *vi.* flow (of water), blow  
 (of wind).

**ngakangu** *pro.* first person singular  
 locative case pronoun. **Wata**  
**nhulu pardakarnda purriyi**  
**ya wata nhawu ngakangu**  
**yatharnda purrirnda**  
**nhandru ngantiyayi kupa**  
**darnkarda purrilhali** He didn't  
 take her and he didn't tell me that  
 she was about to give birth.

**ngakarni** *pro.* my, first person  
 singular dative.

**ngalantha** *pro.* first person dual  
 special moiety pronoun. **yini**  
**kara wupalha nganayi**  
**nhingki yara ngalantha**  
**nhingki yara waparnanhi**  
 Maybe you go that way and we  
 go this way.

**ngaldra** *pro.* first person dual  
 inclusive pronoun.

**ngaldrangu** *pro.* to us two (including  
 you).

**ngaldrarni** *pro.* of us two (including  
 you).

**ngali** *pro.* first person dual exclusive  
 pronoun. **ngali kankuyali**  
**mawali nganayi** "We two are  
 hungry, the boy and I."

**ngalingu** *pro.* to us two (excluding  
 you).

**ngalirni** *pro.* of us two (excluding  
 you).

**ngalku** *n.* desire.

**ngalpurru** *n.* dark, darkness.

**ngaltya** *n.* saliva, spit.

**ngaltya warra-rna** *vtr.* spit.

**ngalyi** *n.* a little. "**Ngalyi marla**  
**kartyilkarnda purriyamayi.**"  
 Turn it a little more. **ngayani**  
**nhingkirnda ngamayi yawarra**  
**yatharna wata ngathu**  
**kupula thapayi ngalyingalyi**  
**ngathu thapathapayi wata**  
**nganhi parrawarrayi** When we  
 sit here talking I don't drink grog,  
 I drink a little and don't get  
 drunk.

**ngama-rna** *vi.* sit, live, stay, camp.  
**warrulha nhawu**  
**ngamangamayi pirta miri**  
 "He is sitting all white at the top  
 of the tree." **yini ngamamayi**  
**ngaldrarni ngandrinhi** "You  
 stay with our mother!"

**ngama** *n.* breast, milk.

**ngamangama** *n.* milkweed.  
*Euphorbia drummondii.*

**ngamini** *n.* Ngamini. name of  
 language and group. *See:* **diyari**;  
**thirari.**

**ngampu** *part.* almost.

**ngampu** *n.* sex totems.

**ngana-rna** *vi.* be. **ngali kankuyali**  
**mawali nganayi** "We two are  
 hungry, the boy and I."

**ngana** *aux.* future tense auxiliary verb.

**nganaku** *int.* I don't know.

**ngandrawalka-rna** *vtr.* close, stop.

**ngandri** *n.* mother, mother's sister.  
*See: ngapiri; ngathata. yini ngamamayi ngaldrarni ngandrinhi* "You stay with our mother!"

**nganha** *pro.* me, first person singular accusative case pronoun. **Nganha yingkiyamayi yanika.** Give it to me like this!'

**nganha** *int.* oh yes, is that so.

**nganhi** *pro.* first person singular nominative pronoun.  
*See: ngathu; yini; nhawu; nhani. nganhi warrangantyu* "I am left-handed." **Yundru wata nganha kurrakarnanhi nganhi yulyanhi yathalha nganayi.** 'If you don't let me go, I'll speak to the police.'

**nganhi** *pro.* I.

**nganka-rna** *vtr.* do, make, cause, work. **matya thana wakararna parlkayi nguranhi, kardiyalitha thurrutha ngankarnanhi, katulha ngankarnanhi** So they came to the camp as the brother-in-law was making a fire (and) making a windbreak. **Ngathu ngankarda purriya palthunhi.** I worked on the road.

**nganka** *n.* beard.

**-nganka** *vderiv.* causative. *Note:* creates transitive verbs from noun and adjective roots **ya malthingankarna** And cooled (it).

**ngankanthi** *n.* catfish, cobbler.  
*Cnidoglanis macrocephalus.*



**nganthi** *n.* meat, edible animal.  
*See: puka. kardiyali partyarna nganthi wayiyi* The brother-in-law cooked all the meat.

**ngantya-rna** *vtr.* want, like, love. **ya kankuyali pakarna ngantyayi wupalha kakunhi yarla kakunhi kardinhi** And a boy also wanted to go together with his elder sister and brother-in-law. **Wata ngathu yinha ngantyayi.** I don't like you.

**ngantya-rna** *vdi.* call by a kinship term.

**ngantyalu** *int.* good job!

**ngapa** *n.* water. **ngapa yundru wata thikalkarnanhi ngathu yinha nandrayathi** I'll hit you if you don't bring water back.

**ngapatyangka** *adj.* wet.

**ngapiri** *n.* father, father's brother.  
*See: ngandri; ngathata. yingkarni ngapirinhi yathani kawu, yingkarni ngapirinhi, nhulu yinha nandrarna* I'll tell your father and he'll hit you.

**ngapitya** *n.* dream, dream totem.

**ngapitya parda-rna** *vtr.* dream.

**ngapu** *n.* silence, quiet. **ngapu ngamarna** He sits quietly. **wata yini wakararna warayi ngapu ngamarna warayi** If you didn't come I'd sit silently.

**ngapuri-rna** *vi.* be quiet.

**ngapuriyamayi** Be quiet!

**ngapunga-rna** *vi.* swim.

*See:* **kukuwirri-rna. kupakupa**

**ngapanhi ngapungarna** The children are swimming in the water.

**ngara-rna** *vt.* hear, listen. **ngathu**

**pirna ngararna pula ngurra**

**thirrimalirna** I heard they are

always fighting. **thana**

**waparna warayi**

**warrithandru diyari yawarra**

**ngaralha** They came from far

away to learn the Diyari

language.

**ngaratharri-rna** *vi.* hear oneself,

feel (something happen to oneself). **Nganhi**

**ngaratharriyi matharnda**

**purriyani parrumarnda**

**purrirndanhi** I felt like I had

been bitten pulling it out.

**ngarangara** *n.* heart.

**ngarda** *part.* then, next, behind.

**ngardanhi thana yarla**

**wapayi** Then they all went

together.

**ngardarda** *n.* grandfather, mother's father, grandson, daughter's child.

*See:* **kami.**

**ngardu** *n.* nardoo, seeds of *Dubiosia*

*hopwoodii.* ground into flour and

eaten, or mixed with water and

baked and eaten. *Dubiosia*

*hopwoodii.*



**ngari-rna** *vi.* go down, come down.

*Note:* occurs in compound verb

constructions indicating action

directed downwards **ngardanhi**

**nhawu ngariyi yinkanhi,**

**warrulha warrulha ngarirna,**

**pulali parrumarna**

**ngarirnanhi** Then he came

down on the string, all white,

white coming down as the two of

them pulled (him) down.

**ngarirnarlu** *part.* down, below.

**ngarla** *conj.* but. *See:* **ya nganhi**

**ngarla ngunyarri** "But I am

right-handed." **ngarda nhawu**

**kanku kathiyi, pirta ngarla**

**miririrna thararnanhi** Then the

boy climbed but the tree went up

and up (at the same time).

**ngarnikuri** *n.* goat.

**ngarnka** *n.* beard.

**ngarnkatyandra** *n.* chin.

**ngarpingarpi** *n.* Afghan person.

*Note:* source unknown, possibly a

loan **Ngardanhi pula**

**ngarpingarpi mandru**

**wakaraya.** Then two Afghans

came up.

**ngarrakali-rna** *vi.* become warm in the morning.

**ngarrimatha** *n.* flood.

**ngarrupara-rna** *vi.* be surprised.

**ngaru** *n.* voice, distinctive sound, echo.

**ngathamurra** *n.* offspring of opposite moiety, child of man.

*See:* **ngathani**.

**ngathani** *n.* offspring of same moiety, child of woman.

*See:* **ngathamurra**.

**ngathata** *n.* younger sibling, younger brother, younger sister. **kakuyali ngardanhi kurukuru yingkiyi nhinha nhangkarni ngathata kanku** Then the elder sister secretly gave (some meat) to her younger brother.

**ngathu** *pro.* first person singular ergative case pronoun.

*See:* **nganhi**; **yundru**.

**nhungkanguwa ngathu**

**nhayinhayiyi, thurru**

**yarkiyarkitharrirnanhi** "Over that way I saw the fire burning."

**ngawa** *adj.* light, not heavy.

**ngayana** *pro.* we, first person plural inclusive pronoun.

*See:* **ngayani**. **ngayana**

**wapayi nhungkangu** "Let's go over there."

**ngayani** *pro.* first person plural exclusive pronoun.

*See:* **ngayana**. **Ngayani**

**pirkirna karirranhi nhaka.**

We were playing in the creek there.

**ngayarla** *n.* sound of human voices in vicinity.

**-ngu** *case.* locative case marker. *Note:* used with pronouns

**nguka-rna** *vtr.* mix.

**nguku** *n.* vomit.

**nguku wara-rna** *vtr.* vomit.

**ngulhu** *n.* forehead.

**nguluka-rna** *vtr.* look out for.

**ngumu** *adj.* good.

**nguna** *n.* arm.

**ngunangana-rna** *vi.* wave one's hand.

**ngundra-rna** *vtr.* think. **Nganhi marlarlu ngundrayi.** I truly think.

**ngunku** *n.* pitchere, native tobacco. *Duboisia hopwoodii.*

**ngunyaṛi** *n.* right-hand, right-handed. **nganhi ngarla ngunyaṛi** "But I am right-handed."

**ngupara** *adv.* ahead, first. **nhawu kanku ngupara mindrirna** The boy ran ahead.

**ngura** *n.* camp. **nhawuyaku nguratha** "This is the camp!" **karari ngathu yinha yingkilha nganayi ngapa nguranhi** I will give you water today in the camp.

**ngurra** *adv.* always, continuously.

**ngurra** *adv.* always, continuously. **pulu yirtyipayi, muka nhawu ngurra thuraraṛi** I can't wake him up, he keeps sleeping. **wata nhawu yatharna ngurra** He doesn't bark all the time.

**ngurramuku** *n.* shin.

**ngurru** *n.* hard, strong, firm.

**nguru** *n.* one day beyond. *Note:* indicates one day beyond the reference time

**thangkuparna nguru** *n.* day after tomorrow.

**waldrawirti nguru** *n.* day before yesterday.

**nguya** *adj.* used to.

**nguyala** *int.* poor thing.

**nguyama-rna** *vtr.* know, recognise.  
**wata nguyamayi** I don't know.

**nguyawaka-rna** *vtr.* prevent.

**nguyuni** *adj.* greedy.

**-nha** *case.* accusative case inflection.

**kanku yindrayi, pula warritharlu waparnanhi, nhayirna nhulu pulanha pirta mirindru warritha** The boy cried as they went further and further, watching them in the distance from the top of the tree.

**nhaka** *n.* there. *Note:* root form used for locative case function  
**ngarda nhulu pulurlu nhayiyi then thurru, warrithalha pula waparnanhi, dityi marapu ngamarna nhaka nhawu** Then he could not see the fire any longer, because they had gone too far away as he sat there for many days.

**nhandru** *pro.* she, third person feminine ergative case pronoun.  
*See:* **nhani; nhawu; nganhi; yini.** **Nhandru ngantyayi kupa darnkarda purrilhali.** She was about to give birth.

**nhanga-rna** *vtr.* pour.

**nhangkangu** *pro.* third person singular feminine locative case pronoun. *See:* **nhungkangu.** **Wata nganhi ngantyarda karrakarralha nhangkangu.** I didn't want to touch her.

**nhangkarni** *pro.* her, third person singular feminine dative pronoun.  
*See:* **nhungkarni. kakuyali ngardanhi kurukuru yingkiyi nhinha nhangkarni ngathata kanku** Then the elder sister secretly gave (some meat) to her younger brother.

**nhanha** *pro.* third person feminine accusative case form.  
*See:* **nhani; nhinha.**

**nhani** *pro.* she. *See:* **nhandru; nhawu.**

**nhantu** *n.* horse. *Note:* probably a borrowing from the Kaurna language where **nanto** means 'kangaroo' **Pula wakarayi nhantuyali, thana mankarra pirkirnanhi pakarna karakaraaldramatha.** They came on horseback, right close to where the girls were playing.

**nhari** *n.* dead.

**nharinganka-rna** *vtr.* kill, cause to die. **nharingankarna kurrayi** (They) killed (both of them).

**nhariri-rna** *vi.* die.

**nhawu** *pro.* he. *See:* **nhulu; nhani.**

**nhayi-rna** *vtr.* see, look. **ngardanhi thana paya kuparru nhayiyi** They they saw some young birds (in a nest in a box tree).

**-nhi** *case.* locative case.

**nhingki** *n.* here (near speaker).  
**nhingkiyamatha ngathu nhayiyatha** "It's here that I saw them."



**nhinha** *pro.* him, third person singular non-feminine accusative case form. **kakuyali kanku yingkiyi nganthi, nhinha**

**thayirnanthu** The elder sister gave the boy meat to eat.

**nhintha** *n.* shame, shyness. *Note:* used in ergative case form with the copula **ngana**

**nhiyi** *n.* older brother. *See:* **kaku**.

**nhulu** *pro.* he, masculine ergative pronoun. *See:* **nhawu; nhandru; ngathu; yundru**.

**nhungkangu** *pro.* him, third person singular non-feminine locative case form. **ngardanhi nhungkarni kardi mara wirriyi, dukaralha nhungkangundru marnandru** Then his brother-in-law's hand went in and took (it) out of his mouth.

**nhungkarni** *pro.* his, third person masculine possessive pronoun. *See:* **nhangkarni**.

**nhura** *n.* tail.

**nhurru** *n.* speed, quick.

**nhuwa** *n.* spouse, husband, wife.

**nhuwanthu** *n.* married.

**nhuwamara** *n.* married couple, husband and wife.

**-ni** *vderiv.* plural verbal derivative used in imperative. *See:* **-lu**. **ngapandru durnkanimayi** Come out of the water (you all)!

**-ni** *vnzr.* verb nominaliser. **Ngardanhi nganhi waparnda purriyi nhakandru ngankani wararanda purrirnda.** Then I went from there leaving work.

**-nkari** *nderiv.* toward. *Note:* a kind of locative suffix but there are few examples and its full range of functions is unclear

**-nthi** *suff.* consequential verb derivation. **yundru ngantiyayi, wupalha, waninthilha ngaldra?** "Do you want to go so we can follow after (him)?"

**-nthu** *nderiv.* comintative affix, having. *See:* **-mara**. **Mathari nhulu nhaka ngankarda purriyi nhaka nhuwanthali.** There was a man working there with his wife.

**-ntya** *postinfl.* counter (added to **wardaru** to mean 'how many'). **yini yatharna yaruya nhawuka kilpa waldra wardaruntya** You say "How old is he?"

**nyarni** *adj.* blunt.

**nyurli-rna** *vtr.* choke.

## P - p

**pakarna** *Variant:* **pakarnda**. *adv.* also, too.

**paki-rna** *vi.* burst.

**pakipa-rna** *vtr.* burst.

**paku** *n.* silent, quiet.

**paku-rna** *vtr.* dig. *See:* **kurdu**. **kurdu ngayani pakuyamayi** Let's dig a hole!

**paku** *adj.* silly, stupid, purposeless.

**pakutha** *n.* fox.

**pali-rna** *vi.* die. **You'll die. Yini palirnda purrilha nganayi.** You'll die. You will die.

**palipali-rna** *vtr.* drown.

**palipalima-rna** *vtr.* drown, make drown.

**palka-rna** *vtr.* split.

**palthu** *n.* road, path, way. **Nganhi waparnda purriyi Paruna mithaya nhaka ngankarda purrilhali palthunhi ngankarda purrirnda.** I went to Paruna to work there, working on the road.

**palyara** *n.* spinifex hopping mouse, kangaroo rat. *Notomys alexis.*



**pandra** *adj.* cooked, ripe.

**panga** *n.* caterpillar.

**pangka** *n.* bed. *Note:* loan from English 'bunk'

**pangki** *n.* side.

**pangkithirri** *n.* rib.

**pani** *Variant:* **padni** *int.* no, none, nothing. **pani nhawuya** "There is nothing here." "**Pani. Ngapurirnda purriyamayi!**" No, be quiet!

**panki-rna** *vi.* be glad, pleased.

**pantha-rna** *vi.* smell, be odorous.

**panthama-rna** *vtr.* smell.

**pantu** *n.* salt lake.

**pantu pirna** *n.* Lake Hope.

**pantya** *n.* knee. **nhulu kankuyali pantya nandrayi** The boy is hitting my knees.

**pantyi-rna** *vcop.* become. **kurangki pantyiyi parrawarrayi kupula thaparna nhuluyathu** He is very drunk today.

**pantyima-rna** *vtr.* make.

**papa** *n.* aunt, father's sister, mother's brother's wife, sister's son's wife. *See:* **kaka.**

**para** *n.* hair of head.

**paralka** *n.* medicinal plant.

**paratyi** *n.* light, lightning. **thinkanhi nhulu nhayiyi paratyi, thurru yarkiyarkitharrirnanhi** In the night he saw the light of the fire burning.

**parda-rna** *vtr.* get, take, catch, touch, carry in hand. *See:* **waltha-rna; wanpa-rna.** **nhulu ngardanhi pardayi yinka** Then he caught the string. **wata pardamayi nhawuparra mara nandrayathi** Don't touch it or I'll hit your hand.

**parda** *adj.* wet.

**pardaka-rna** *vtr.* hold, catch, take, bring. **Ngardanhi nhawu, nhulu nhanha pardakayi ngamalkalha.** Then he, he took her to live with him. **kunali thuriparna wanthiyi yinanha, pardakarna wanthirna yinanha, warararna thikalha** "They poured shit all over you, having brought you (here) to leave you as they went back."

**pardi** *n.* kind of grub.

**pariwilpa** *n.* sky.

**parkulu** *num.* three. *See:* **kurnu; mandru. ngayani parkulu nhingkiya ngamayi pungalhanhi** We three sit here in the shade.

**parla** *n.* sexually aroused. *Note:* occurs in instrumental case with copula **ngana**, source of arousal is in locative case **Kankuwarayi! Nhawuya parlali nganayi ngakangu**. Boys! He's sexually aroused over me.

**parlka-rna** *vi.* travel, go on a journey. *Note:* occurs in compound verb constructions in Diyari indicating action while on a journey **dityi parlpa thurarna parlkayi** (They) slept on their journey for some days.

**parlku** *n.* body, flesh,

**parlku** *n.* cloud.

**parlkura** *n.* kind of seed.

**parlpa** *n.* some. **dityi parlpa thurarna parlkayi** (They) slept on their journey for some days. **Nhakandru nganhi thikarnda purriyi 1959 ngingkirda ngamarnda purrilhali Farina mithanhi ya putha parlpa nganhi thikarnda purrirnda** From there I came back in 1959 to live here at Farina and sometimes I went back to Witchelina to work and to Myrtle Springs to work.

**putha parlpa** *n.* sometimes.

**parlu** *n.* naked, nude. **ngardanhi kathi dukarnda purriyi, parlu waparnda purrilhali, nganhi thungkali wirrirnda purrirnda** Then they would take off their clothes and walk about naked wearing rotten meat.

**parni-rna** *vi.* smell, be odorous.

**parnima-rna** *vtr.* smell.

**parra-rna** *vi.* lie, sleep. *Note:* usually of inanimates only *See:* **thurara-rna. Wilha nhaniya muntya parrarnda purriyi.**" The woman, she is lying down sick.

**parra** *aux.* auxiliary verb marking past tense and completive aspect. **punthirna parraya ngali** We are splitting up (and finished).

**-parra** *postinfl.* specific. *Note:* picks out an identified entity that is separated from other entities **minha nhawuparrawu? "What's that?" kupa thurayi nhawuparra** The child lies down.

**-parra** *postinfl.* specific.

**parraparra** *adj.* energetic, hard.

**parrawarra-rna** *vi.* be drunk. **ngayani ngingkirda ngamayi yawarra yatharna wata ngathu kupula thapayi ngalyingalyi ngathu thapathapayi wata nganhi parrawarrai** When we sit here talking I don't drink grog, I drink a little and don't get drunk.

**parru** *n.* fish. *Note:* generic term

**parruma-rna** *vtr.* pull, drag. **ngardanhi nhawu ngariyi yinkanhi, warrulha warrulha ngarirna, pulali parrumarna ngarirnanhi** Then he came down on the string, all white, white coming down as the two of them pulled (him) down.

**parti** *adj.* silly. *See:* **kuwu.**

**partiparti** *adj.* mad, crazy.

**partya-rna** *vtr.* involve all.

**partyarna** *Variant:* **partyarnda**. *n.* all. **kardiyali partyarna nganhi wayiyi** The brother-in-law cooked all the meat.

**paru** *n.* yellow ochre. *See:* **karku**.

**paruparu** *n.* everywhere.

**pathara** *n.* box tree. *Eucalyptus sp.*

*Note:* typically used as a generic term when translating 'tree' from English **kardi yathayi kankunhi, patharanhi karirnanthu** The brother-in-law told the boy to climb the box tree.

**pawa** *n.* seed.

**pawi** *n.* lignum tree. *Muehlenbeckia florulenta*.



**paya** *n.* bird. *Note:* generic term  
*See:* **purri-rna ngardanhi thana paya kuparru nhayiyi** They they saw some young birds (in a nest in a box tree).

**payalku** *n.* bag. **payalku maniyamayi mithandru** Pick the bag up from the ground!

**payirri** *n.* long.

**piki** *n.* pig.

**pildra** *n.* possum.

**pilki** *adj.* different.

**pilpa** *n.* eyebrow. *See:* **milki**.

**milki pilpa** *n.* eyebrow.

**pilpiri** *n.* shoulder.

**pinarru** *n.* old man.

**pindri** *n.* grasshopper.

**pinpa-rna** *vtr.* leave over, fail to consume.

**pintharra** *n.* patrilineal ceremonial totem. *See:* **marduka**.

**pinthi** *part.* rumoured.

**pintyipintyirnara** *n.* bat.

**pinya** *n.* revenge expedition.

**pipa** *n.* paper, book.

**pira** *n.* dish. traditionally made of tree bark.



**pira** *n.* moon, moonlight, month.  
*See:* **dityi. Dapa nganarna wanthiyi pira kurnu, pira kurnu dapa nganarnda purrirnda**. It was sore for a month.

**pirda** *n.* navel, belly button.

**pirdarru** *n.* drought.

**piri** *n.* space, room.

**piringanka-rna** *vtr.* make space, clear a space for something.

**pirikurnti** *n.* Lake Perigundi.

**pirki-rna** *vi.* play. **Ngayani pirkirna karirranhi nhaka**. We were playing in the creek there. **Pula wakarayi nhantuyali, thana mankarra pirkirnanhi pakarna karakardramatha**. They came on horseback, right close to where the girls were playing.

**pirla** *n.* coal of fire, charcoal.

**pirli** *n.* bark of tree.

**pirli** *n.* net bag, pouch of marsupial.

**pirna** *n.* big, large, strong, a lot. **nhulu pirna thaparna warayi nhawuya marla parrawarrananhi nhungkangu** He drank a lot, while he (another one) was getting more drunk than him.

**pirrapirra** *adj.* flat.

**pirri** *n.* nail, fingernail, toenail, groove.

**pirrikuthi-rna** *vi.* dive.

*See:* **ngapunga-rna**.

**pirrinti** *n.* perentie, large goanna.

*Varanus giganteus.*



**pirta** *n.* tree, stick, log. *Note:* generic term **ngarda nhawu kanku kathi<sub>yi</sub>, pirta ngarla miririrna thararnanhi** Then the boy climbed but the tree went up and up (at the same time).

**pithi-rna** *vi.* fart, break wind.

*See:* **kuna-rna; kipara-rna**.

**piti** *n.* anus.

**pityi** *n.* bark of tree, dish, coolamon. coolamon is a carrying dish fashioned from bark.

**pityirri** *n.* native tobacco, pitchere.

**puka** *n.* vegetable food. *See:* **nganthi**.

**pukartu** *n.* kind of ochre. ochre collected from mines in the northern Flinder's Ranges near Parachilna.

**pula** *pro.* they two, third person dual pronoun. *See:* **thana**.

**ngardanhi pulali nhinha warara-yi pathara miri** Then the two of them left him at the top of the box tree. **nhawu dalkiyi pulangu ya nhungkarni ngandrinhi** His disobeyed them and his mother.

**pulangkiti** *n.* blanket. *Note:* loan from English

**pulka-rna** *vtr.* blow.

**pulu** *Variant:* **pu<sub>dlu</sub>**. *part.* cannot.

**ngarda nhulu pulurlu nhayiyi then thurru, warrithalha pula waparnanhi, dityi marapu ngamarna nhaka nhawu**

Then he could not see the fire any longer, because they had gone too far away as he sat there for many days.

**puluka** *Variant:* **pu<sub>dluka</sub>**. *n.* cattle, bullock.

**pulyurru** *n.* mud.

**punga** *n.* shelter, humpy. **punganhi nhawu thurarayi** He lies under the humpy.

**pungalha** *n.* shade. **ngayani parkulu ngingkiya ngamayi pungalhanhi** We three sit here in the shade.

**punnga** *n.* lungs.

**puntha** *n.* marsupial mouse.

**punthi-rna** *vi.* split, divide. **ngali thirimalirna warayi ngardanhi punthiyi nhawu waparnanhi yarlarlu yara ngarla ngalantha yarlarlu yara waparna** We fought and then he split off and went that way but we go this way.

**punthipa-rna** *vtr.* separate, divide, split up.

**pupa-rna** *vi.* admonish, tell off.

**purda** *adj.* unripe, raw.

**puri-rna** *vi.* fall, drop. **Yeah, nhawu durnkingayi kupakupa purirnda purrirnda**. Yes, he came out falling down. **nganhi purirna warayi mardanhi kara minhanhi kara mangathandrali** I fell on a rock or something with my head.

**purka-rna** *vi.* wade in water. *Note:* see LR's song **marna karta**

**purka** *n.* conscience.

**purlu** *n.* naked.

**purnka-rna** *vi.* grow.

**purntu** *n.* nose peg.

**purralku** *n.* brolga. *Grus rubicunda.*



**purri** *aux.* auxiliary verb.

**purri-rna** *vi.* lay an egg. *See:* **paya.**

**purru** *n.* frost.

**purru** *int.* hey!

**puta** *n.* boot, shoe.

**putha** *n.* time.

**putha parlpa** *n.* sometimes.

**Nhakandru nganhi**

**thikarnda purriyi 1959**

**nhingkirda ngamarnda**

**purrihali Farina mithanhi**

**ya putha parlpa nganhi**

**thikarnda purrirnda** From

there I came back in 1959 to

live here at Farina and

sometimes I went back to

Witchelina to work and to

Myrtle Springs to work.

**putha** *n.* ash.

**putha** *adj.* shallow.

**puthurru** *n.* dust.

**putu** *n.* thing.

**putyu** *n.* blind, closed (of eyes).

*See:* **milki.**

**puwa** *n.* marrow. *See:* **muku.**

**puwa** *n.* artesian bore.

**puyurru** *n.* parallel cousin, mother's sister's child.

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## r - r

**rapiti** *n.* rabbit.

**-rda** *nderiv.* vicinity of speaker. *Note:*

used with locative case nouns

**Yingkarni puluka wata**

**nhingkirda waparnda**

**purriyi.** Your bullocks shouldn't

walk here. **Yini nhakaldra**

**nhingkirda wakararnanhi,**

**nganhi marriya mindrilha**

**nganayi, yulya manilha.** 'If

you come here again I'll run to

Maree to get the police.'

**-rda** *vinfl.* participle. *Note:* used with

verbs containing medial nasal-

stop cluster *See:* **-rnda -rna.**

**-ri** *nvzr.* inchoative verbalising suffix.

*Note:* derives intransitive verbs

from nouns and adjectives *See:* -

**ri. ngarda nhawu kanku**

**kathiyi, pirta ngarla miririrna**

**thararnanhi** Then the boy

climbed but the tree went up and

up (at the same time).

**-ri** *nvzr.* inchoative verbalising suffix.

*Note:* derives intransitive verbs

from nouns and adjectives *See:* -

**ri. walya karlkalumayi,**

**nganthi malthirirnanthu** "You

two wait a while for the meat to

cool down!"

**-rlu** *postinfl.* still. *Note:* post-inflectional clitic **kanku yindrayi, pula warritharlu waparnanhi, nhayirna nhulu pulanha pirta mirindru warritha** The boy cried as they went further and further, watching them in the distance from the top of the tree.

**-rna** *vinfl.* participial verb suffix. *See:* **-rnda**.

**-rna** *vinfl.* imperfective same subject. *See:* **-rnda**. **kanku yindrayi, pula warritharlu waparnanhi, nhayirna nhulu pulanha pirta mirindru warritha** The boy cried as they went further and further, watching them in the distance from the top of the tree.

**-rnanhi** *vinfl.* imperfective different subject. *See:* **-rndanhi**.

**-rnanthu** *vinfl.* implicated clause-different subject. *See:* **-lha; -yani**. **kankuyali wata yaniya thayirnanthu nganthi waka** "Boys shouldn't eat small animals like this."

**-rnda** *vinfl.* participial verb suffix. *See:* **-rna**.

**-rnda** *vinfl.* imperfective same subject. *See:* **-rna**.

**-rndanhi** *vinfl.* imperfective different subject. *See:* **-rnanhi**. **Yini yatharnda purriyamayi nhulu nhinha kupa tharduparnda thikarndanhi.** "You tell him to push the child back!"

**-rni** *case.* dative case. *Note:* dative case with pronouns

## T - t

**-tha** *postinfl.* old information post-inflectional suffix. **nhawu miritha tharingarna tharriyi** He went up and up at the top (of the tree).

**thaka** *n.* clay. *See:* **mitha**.

**thalara** *n.* rain. *See:* **kurda-rna**.

**thana** *pro.* they all, third person plural pronoun. *See:* **pula**.

**thandra** *n.* fruit, seed, clitoris.

**thandra-rna** *vtr.* fill (with liquid).

**thandripila** *n.* brown snake.

**thangkaldri** *n.* sweet millet.

**thangkuparna** *n.* tomorrow.

*See:* **karari; waldrawirti**.

**ngaldra mayi wapayi thangkuparna, nhayilha**

"Let's go tomorrow to see (him)."

**thangkuthangkuparna** *adv.* morning.

**thangkuthangkuparna**

**nhayirna thupu** In the morning (he) saw the smoke.

**thani-rna** *Variant:* **thadni**. *vtr.* copulate.

**thanyu** *Variant:* **tyanyu**. *n.* kind of plant.



**thapa-rna** *vtr.* drink, suck. **karna mandru pula karkarkamaliyi kupula thapalha** These two men are shouting at each other to drink grog. **marā nhulu thapayi marnanhi** He is sucking his finger in his mouth.

**marna thapa-rna** *vtr.* kiss.

**thara-rna** *vi.* rise, go up. *Note:* used in compound verb constructions to indicate motion upwards **ngarda nhawu kanku kathiyi, pirta ngarla miririrna thararnanhi** Then the boy climbed but the tree went up and up (at the same time). **Nhawu muntharlu karirna tharayi.** He climbed up alone.

**tharinga-rna** *vi.* go up past. **nhawu miritha tharingarna thariyi** He went up and up at the top (of the tree).

**thara** *n.* thigh. **kanku ngamayi tharanhi** The boy is sitting on my thigh.

**thara malka** *n.* policeman.  
*See:* **thara.**

**thardi** *n.* thirst. *Note:* occurs in ergative case with **ngana** to express 'thirsty' *See:* **mawa.**

**thardupa-rna** *vtr.* push. **Yini yatharnda purriyamayi nhulu nhinha kupa tharduparnda thikarndanhi."**  
You tell him to push the child back!

**thari** *n.* youth, young man.  
*See:* **mankarra; kanku.**  
**thariyali nganthi warduwardungankarna, thariyali waniyi, thayilha**  
Breaking up the meat, the young man began to eat (it).

**tharka-rna** *vi.* stand, be standing.  
**Tharkayi nhaka thananha pirringankarna.** He stands there emptying them.

**tharkalka-rna** *vtr.* stand with.

**tharkipa-rna** *vtr.* stand something up.

**tharla** *n.* name. *See:* **dika-rna.**  
**Nhawu panturanhi wirringarna yarra nhaka nhawu mitha tharlatha Murrayville windrilha yini wakaranda purrilhali Ouyen.** He went into the boundary there at the place called Murrayville, where you come to Ouyen.

**tharli** *n.* tongue. **tharli mathatharriyi yini** Did you bite your tongue?

**thariku** *n.* straight, correct.

**tharipa** *n.* ear.

**tharipa kurru** *adj.* deaf.

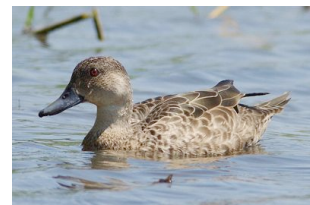
**tharipa** *n.* leaf.

**tharra-rna** *vi.* fly. *See:* **paya.**

**tharralka-rna** *vtr.* fly with.

**tharraka-rna** *vi.* float.

**tharralku** *n.* teal duck, grey teal. *Anas gracilis.*



**tharri-rna** *vi.* continuous action. *Note:* only occurs in compound verb constructions **nhawu miritha tharingarna thariyi** He went up and up at the top (of the tree). **wilhapina ngapanhi tharkarna thariyi** The old lady is standing in the water.



**-tharri** *vderiv.* cont, refl, detrans.

**tharu** *n.* father-in-law, wife's father, husband's father, son-in-law, daughter's husband, daughter-in-law, son's wife.

**thati** *n.* middle.

**thayi-rna** *vtr.* eat. *See:* **thapa.**

**kankuyali kartiwarru thayiyi**

The boy ate the kartiwarru lizard.

**wata thayiyamayi** "Don't eat (that)!"

**thika-rna** *vi.* return, go back, come back. **Nhawu wata marla thikayi.** He never came back.

**thikalka-rna** *vtr.* take back.

**thikawarra** *n.* native cat. *Dasyurus sp.*. *Note:* pronunciation uncertain

**thilhinga-rna** *vi.* boil.

**thilthirri** *n.* centipede.



**thiltya** *Variant:* **tyiltya**. *n.* sinew, calf (muscle).

**thina** *Variant:* **thidna**. *n.* foot, footprint, track.

**thina mandrani** *n.* trap (literally 'something which grasps').

**thinamara** *Variant:* **thidnamara**. *n.* frog.

**thinanipa** *Variant:* **thidnanipa**. *n.* man on a revenge expedition, kurdaitcha. *See:* **pinya. yanika ngayana dikarnda purriyi thinanipa** So we called them thinanipa.

**thinankarra** *Variant:* **thidnankarri.**

*n.* south. *See:* **thirriwa; dityi**

**durnka. Kunankarrandru**

**nganhi thikayi**

**thinankarralha.** "From the

north I'll go back to the south".

**thinara** *Variant:* **thidnara**. *n.* niece, nephew, brother's child.

**thindrithindri** *n.* willie wagtail.

*Rhipidura leucophrys.*



**thinka** *n.* night, night time.

*See:* **kalkawarra. thinkanhi**

**nhulu nhayiyi paraty, thurru**

**yarkiyarkitharrinani** In the

night he saw the light of the fire burning.

**thintha-rna** *vtr.* lose, spill.

**thinthatharri-rna** *vi.* get lost.

**thinthipiri** *n.* elbow.

**thipi** *n.* alive, life.

**thirr-rna** *vi.* fight. **ngurra yara**

**kupakupa thirriyi** The children fight all the time.

**thirrimali-rna** *vi.* fight one another.

**thirri** *n.* savage, aggressive. *Note:* occurs in instrumental case with **ngana**

**thirriwa** *n.* east. *See:* **kunangkari; thinankara.**

**thirti** *n.* tea.

**thiwi** *n.* flower.

**thuka-rna** *vtr.* carry on one's back.

**thukatharri-rna** *vi.* ride on (eg. a horse). **Nhantunhi kathiyi, ngardanhi waparna kurrarna, thukatharrirna kurrarna.** (They) climbed on their horses and went away, riding away.

**thuku** *n.* back.

**thungka** *n.* rotten, stinking.

**thupu** *n.* smoke. *See:* **thurru.**  
**thangkuthangkuparna nhayirna thupu** In the morning (he) saw the smoke.

**thurara-rna** *vi.* lie, lie down, sleep.  
*See:* **parra-rna; muka.**  
**ngardanhi thurarayi, thangkuthangkuparna wupalha** Then (they) slept to go in the morning. **mithanhi thuraramayi** Lie down on the ground!

**thurarra** *n.* powder.

**thurintyi** *Variant:* **tyurintyi.** *n.* marrow. *See:* **muku.**

**thurla** *n.* chisel.

**thurpa-rna** *vtr.* twist, spin, tease.

**thurripa-rna** *vtr.* pour liquid on, water.

**thurru** *n.* fire, firewood. *See:* **thupu; darra. nhayirna karakara first thurru nhulu pularni, wardayari pula thurara-rna parkarnanhi, thupu nhayirna thangkuthangkuparna** At first (he) saw their fire close by where they were sleeping as they went along, watching the smoke in the morning.

**thurru wilpara** *n.* train.

**thurruthurru** *n.* hot. *See:* **thurru.**

**thurruthurrunganka-rna** *vtr.* heat, make hot. **Kawu. Ngathu nhinha jam tin thurrunhi kurrayi thurruthurrungankarna.** Yes. I put a jam tin (full of water) on the fire heating it up.

**thuti-rna** *vtr.* bury. **mingka thutiyamayi** Cover the hole!

**thutyu** *Variant:* **tyutyu.** *n.* dangerous thing, snake, biting insect, poison bait.

**tyampa-rna** *vi.* be fond of.

**tyangka** *n.* soft.

**tyanma-rna** *vi.* open one's eyes.

**tyanyu** *Variant:* **thanyu.** *n.* kind of plant.

**tyapuli** *n.* shovel.

**tyaputyapu** *n.* ball. usually made of gypsum.

**tyarkara** *adj.* sharp.

**tyarla** *n.* piece.

**tyawurra** *n.* trousers. *Note:* loan from English

**tyika** *n.* mistake.

**tyikanganka-rna** *vtr.* make a mistake.

**tyili** *n.* spring, soakage, native well.  
*Note:* usually **ngapa jili**

**tyilparku** *n.* kind of bird.

**tyiltya** *Variant:* **thiltya.** *n.* sinew, calf (muscle).

**tyipityipi** *Variant:* **yipiyipi.** *n.* sheep.

**tyuka** *n.* sugar.

**tyukityuki** *n.* fowl, chicken.

**tyukurru** *n.* kangaroo.

**tyurintyi** *Variant:* **thurintyi.** *n.* marrow. *See:* **muku.**

**tyutyu** *Variant:* **thutyu.** *n.* reptile, snake.

**tyutyu** *Variant: thutyu.* *n.* dangerous thing, snake, biting insect, poison

bait.

## W - w

**-wa** *postinfl.* distal deictic post-inflection. **aa nhawuwaku thurru yarkiyarkitharriyi warritha** "Oh, that must be the fire burning far off."

**waka** *n.* small, little. **kankuyali wata yaniya thayirnanthu nganthi waka** "Boys shouldn't eat small animals like this."

**wakara-rna** *vi.* come. **matya thana wakarna parlkayi nguranhi, kardiyalitha thurrutha ngankarnanhi, katulha ngankarnanhi** So they came to the camp as the brother-in-law was making a fire (and) making a windbreak. **Karna wakarnanhi ngardanhi ngayani yathayathayi.** If people come then we talk.

**wakari-rna** *vi.* break.

**wakaripa-rna** *vtr.* break.

**wakarra** *n.* back of neck, nape.

**waldra** *n.* hot. *See: malthi.*

**kilpa waldra** *n.* year.

**Nhungkanguka kilpa waldranhi 1927 ngathu ngankarda purriya.** There in for the year of 1927 I worked.

**waldrawirti** *n.* yesterday.

*See: thangkuparna; karari.*

**walkarra** *n.* sadness. *Note:* occurs with ergative case marker and **ngana** 'to be' **Wata nganhi walkarrali nganarna wapayi** I am not sad.

**walki-rna** *vi.* move to and fro.

**walpala** *n.* white man.

**waltha-rna** *vtr.* carry on head.

*See: parda-rna; wanpa-rna.*

**Nhakandru ngathu palthunhi ngankarda purriya palthunhi ngankarda purrirnda windri nhantuyali marda waltharnda purrirnda.** From there I worked on the road, working on the road only with horses carrying rocks.

**walthu** *n.* tired.

**walthurri-rna** *vi.* be tired, feel tired.

**walya** *adv.* a while. **walya karlkamayi, karari wama thayilha** "Wait a while to eat carpet snake (later) today."

**wama** *n.* snake. *Note:* usually refers to carpet snake but can be used as a generic term

**wana** *n.* yamstick, woman's digging stick. *See: kira.*

**wandra-rna** *vdi.* show.

**wandra** *n.* big and thick. **Yini kini wandra nhantuyari, dangkirdangkiyari.** 'Your penis is big and thick like a horse, like a little donkey.'

**wangi** *adj.* poor, destitute.

**wangka-rna** *vtr.* sing. *See: wima.*

**wani-rna** *vi.* begin, start. **thariyali nganthi warduwardungankarna, thariyali waniyi, thayilha** Breaking up the meat, the young man began to eat (it).

**wani-rna** *vtr.* follow.

**wanintheta-rna** *vtr.* follow after.  
**yundru ngantyayi,**  
**wapalha, wanintheta**  
**ngaldra?** "Do you want to go  
 so we can follow after (him)?"

**wanku** *n.* snake.

**wanpa-rna** *vtr.* carry on body part  
 (head, shoulder, back).  
*See:* **parda-rna; waltha-rna.**

**wanpi-rna** *vi.* have an erection.

**wantheta-rna** *vtr.* search, look for.

**wantheta-rna** *aux.* distant past tense  
 auxiliary.

**wantya-rna** *vtr.* try.

**wapa-rna** *vi.* go, move. **ngardanhi**  
**thana yarla wapayi** Then they  
 all went together. **Wapamayi!**  
 'Go away!' (Emily said).

**wapalka-rna** *vtr.* go with, take.

**wapa-rna** *aux.* auxiliary marking  
 habitual aspect.

**-wara** *nderiv.* plural noun formative.

**wara-rna** *vtr.* throw, drop.  
**ngardanhi pulali warayi**  
**yinka, warana nhungkangu**  
**kankunhi** Then the two of them  
 threw the string, throwing (it) to  
 the boy.

**wara-rna** *aux.* auxiliary verb marking  
 past tense.

**warangu** *pro.* to who?

**waranha** *pro.* who, someone.

**warapa-rna** *vtr.* tell.

**warapatharri-rna** *vi.* tell. **Nganhi**  
**marlarlu yulyanhi**  
**warapatharrilha nganayi.**  
 I'll truly tell the police all  
 about it.

**warara-rna** *vtr.* leave, leave behind.  
**Ngardanhi pulali thananha**  
**wararayi.** Then they left them.  
**Wararamayi, nhawu**  
**kartyirnanthu.** "Leave him to  
 come around".

**warda** *n.* corroboree headdress.

**wardaru** *predet.* how. *See:* **yani;**  
**yaru.** **Ngathu yakalkarnda**  
**"Wardaru yanika?"** I asked  
 "How is this?"

**wardayari** *n.* where. **nhayirna**  
**karakara first thurru nhulu**  
**pularni, wardayari pula**  
**thurara parlkarnanhi,**  
**thupu nhayirna**  
**thangkuthangkuparna** At first  
 (he) saw their fire close by where  
 they were sleeping as they went  
 along, watching the smoke in the  
 morning.

**wardu** *n.* short.

**warkamandra-rna** *vtr.* tie, ite up,  
 tangle.

**warku** *adj.* crosswise.

**warla** *n.* nest. **miri kariyamayi**  
**warlaya, kapi manilha** "Climb  
 up above to the nest to get the  
 eggs!"

**warli** *pro.* who, someone.

**warli** *n.* house.

**warlpa-rna** *vtr.* cover.

**warlpardaka-rna** *vtr.* cover.

**warni** *pro.* whose?

**warpa-rna** *vi.* canter.

**warra** *n.* half.

**warrangantyu** *n.* left-hand, left-  
 handed. **nganhi warrangantyu**  
 "I am left-handed."

**warrawarrapa-rna** *vtr.* disparage, run  
 someone down.

**warritha** *n.* far, distant. **kanku yindrayi, pula warritharlu waparnanhi, nhayirna nhulu pulanha pirta mirindru warritha** The boy cried as they went further and further, watching them in the distance from the top of the tree.

**warriwarri-rna** *vi.* die of thirst, perish.

**warru** *n.* white.

**warrukathi** *n.* emu. *Dromaius novaehollandiae*.



**warta** *n.* butt of tree.

**waru** *adv.* long ago. **waru nganhi yatharna wanthiyi diyari** I used to speak Diyari long ago.

**warulha** *adj.* old. **warulha nhawuya** "This (campsite) is old."

**wata** *part.* not, don't. **nhulu kankuyali wata ngantyayi ngamalha** The boy didn't want to stay. **wata thayiyamayi** "Don't eat (that)!"

**wathara** *n.* wind. *See:* **wityikura**.

**wathi-rna** *vtr.* erect, build.

**watyama-rna** *vtr.* wash. *Note:* loan from English 'wash'em'

**wayi-rna** *vtr.* cook. **ya pakarna kankuyali wayiyi kartiwarru** And the boy cooked the kartiwarru lizard also.

**wayikalkunha** *n.* Clayton Creek.

**wilha** *Variant:* **widlha** *n.* woman.

*See:* **mathari; mankarra**.

**wilhapina** *n.* old woman. *See:* **wilha**. **yini yathamayi wilhapinanhi nhangkanguparra, ngamamayi wilha** Tell the old woman to sit down!

**wilpara** *n.* wheeled vehicle, train.

**thurru wilpara** *n.* train.

**wilyarru** *n.* cicatriscation ceremony.

**wilyirri** *n.* bottom, buttocks. *See:* **piti**.

**wima** *n.* corroboree, ceremony.

*See:* **kirli-rna; wangka-rna**.

**windri** *part.* only. **ngarla kankuyali**

**windri nandrayi kartiwarru**

But the boy only killed a kartiwarru lizard.

**winkarra** *n.* yam.

**winma-rna** *vtr.* insert, put in.

**winpa-rna** *vtr.* ask repetitively for, pester.

**wintha** *adv.* when. **wintha ngathu kupula wata thapayi parrawarrarna** When I drink I don't get drunk.

**winthamingkanha** *n.* Frome Creek.

**wintharranaya** *n.* how long.

**wirari-rna** *vi.* wander about. **Yaruka nganhi waparnda purrirnda wanthiyi wirarirndayina nhayirnda purrilhali mitha**. I went like that going about looking.

**wirdi** *n.* outer one of a set.

**wirlpa** *n.* hole. *Note:* inside some element *See:* **kurdu**.

**wirluru** *n.* bush stone-curlew. *Burhinus*  
*grallarius*.



**wirpa** *n.* pubic tassel.

**wirri-rna** *vi.* enter, go in, wear  
(clothing). *Note:* place entered is  
in locative case *See:* **kathi-rna**.  
**kardi maḡa wirrina kankuya**  
**marnanhi** The brother-in-law's  
hand went into the boy's mouth.  
**kathi thana wirrinnda purriyi**  
They used to wear clothes.

**wiringa-rna** *vi.* go in along.  
**Nhawu panturanhi**  
**wiringarna yarra nhaka**  
**nhawu mitha tharlatha**  
**Murrayville windrilha yini**  
**wakaranda purrilhali**  
**Ouyen.** He went into the  
boundary there at the place  
called Murrayville, where you  
come to Ouyen.

**wirri-rna** *vi.* be painted. *Note:* thing  
one is painted with is in ergative  
case as instrument

**wirripa-rna** *vtr.* paint. **ngardanhi**  
**marniyali wirripayi pulali**  
Then they painted (him) with  
fat.

**wirti** *n.* along. *Note:* acts like a  
postposition with locations to  
indicate movement along a path  
and with temporal words to  
indicate duration through a period  
of time

**wita** *adj.* lined up, in a row, through.

**witiminiri** *n.* hat.

**wityikuḡa** *n.* whirlwind, willy-willy.

**-wu** *postinfl.* exclamatory final vowel  
distortion. **"Matya**

**nhawuparrawu!"** "That's him!"

**wuldru** *n.* narrow.

## Y - y

**ya** *conj.* and.

**-ya** *postinfl.* near.

**-ya** *case.* dative case. **kardi mara wirrirna kankuya marnanhi**  
The brother-in-law's hand went into the boy's mouth.

**-ya** *vinfl.* imperative mood. *Note:* suffix for verbs ending in i or u

**-ya** *case.* allative case. **miri kariyamayi warlaya, kapi manilha** "Climb up above to the nest to get the eggs!"

**-ya** *vinfl.* past tense suffix.

**-ya** *nderiv.* dubitative. *Note:* added to interrogatives it indicates an indefinite reading

**yakalka-rna** *vtr.* ask. **Thanali nganha yakalkarnda purriya.** They asked me.  
**Ngathu yakalkarnda "Wardaru yanika?"** I asked "How is this?"

**yakayayi** *int.* hooray!

**yakayita** *n.* gate.

**yakutha** *n.* bag.

**-yali** *case.* ergative case. *Note:* for disyllables ending in i or u  
*See:* **-li. nhulu kankuyali wata ngantayayi ngamalha**  
The boy didn't want to stay.

**yama** *n.* net, fishing net.

**yampa** *n.* wild, untamed.

**kinthala yampa** *n.* dingo, wild dog.

**yani** *predet.* like this. *See:* **yaru.**

**-yani** *vinfl.* implicated different subject. *See:* **-rnanthu. Nhaka ngathu ngankarda purriyi farmanhi windri nhawu kilpa waldra murdarnanthu murdarnda purriyani 1932.** I worked there on a farm only to the end of the year 1932.

**yanku** *n.* grandfather, father's father.

**yantakara** *n.* west. *See:* **kundankari; thinankara.**

**yapa** *n.* fear, afraid. *Note:* used in ergative case with **ngana**, person or thing one is afraid of is in locative case **"Yura ngakarni nhantu yapa yingkirda purriyi."** You are making my horses afraid.

**yapi-rna** *vtr.* burn. *See:* **yarki-rna.**

**yara** *adv.* hence, this way (direction towards speaker). *See:* **yarra. Yara wapanimayi, dangardangarna.** Come over here and hunt (him) away.

**yardi-rna** *vi.* lie, tell lies, tell falsehood. *Note:* person one tells lie to is in locative case **nhawuparra kankuanku yardiyi** The boy is telling a lie.

**-yari** *postinfl.* semblative post-inflectional suffix. **ya kardiyali wama ya kapiirri ya kadni nandrayi** And the brother-in-law killed carpet snake, and goanna, and frill-necked lizard.

**yarkarla** *n.* neck, throat.

**yarki-rna** *vi.* burn. **kakuya kardiya thurru yarkiyi nhawuka warritha** "That is my sister and brother-in-law's fire burning far off." **matyatha yarkiyilhaku nhawu thurru** This fire has just been burning.

**yarkitharri-rna** *vi.* be burning, do on burning. **aa nhawuwaku thurru yarkiyarkitharriyi warritha** "Oh, that must be the fire burning far off."

**yarla** *adj.* elsewhere, together. **ngardanhi thana yarla wapayi** Then they all went together.

**yarni-rna** *vi.* lean.

**yarra** *adv.* thence, that way (direction away from speaker). **Nhawu panturanhi wirringarna yarra nhaka nhawu mitha tharlatha Murrayville** He went into the boundary there at the place called Murrayville.

**yartu** *adj.* sated, full up.

**yartuṛi-rna** *vi.* become sated, become full.

**yaṛu** *predet.* like that, thus. **yaṛuya pakarna nhungkarni kardi yathayi** His brother-in-law said the same thing.

**yatha-rna** *vi.* speak, say. *Note:* person spoken to is in locative case **yaṛuya pakarna nhungkarni kardi yathayi** His brother-in-law said the same thing. **kardi yathayi kankunhi, patharanhi kaṛirnanthu** The brother-in-law told the boy to climb the box tree. **Yundru wata nganha kurrakarnanhi nganhi yulyanhi yathalha nganayi.** 'If you don't let me go, I'll tell the police.'

**yatha-rna** *vtr.* tell off, scold, argue with. *See:* **yatha-rna.**

**-yathi** *vinfl.* lest, or else. **pirtanhi kurramayi mirkali thananha thayiyathi** Hang it in the tree or the ants might eat them.

**yawa** *n.* grass onion.

**yawarra** *n.* language. **wintha yini waparna yini ngakangu yundru yakalkayi yundru ngantyayi diyari yawarra yathayathalha** When you go tell them you want to learn to speak Diyari.

**yawarra yingkirnayitya** *n.* preacher, missionary. *Note:* literally 'giver of words'

**yawurla** *n.* flame. light.

**yawurla** *n.* soul.

**-yi** *vinfl.* present tense suffix.

**-yi** *postinfl.* exclamation distortion of final syllable of noun.

**yika-rna** *vtr.* squeeze.

**-yina** *postinfl.* tag question post-inflectional suffix. **Yaruka nganhi waparnda purrirnda wanthiyi wirarirndayina nhayirnda purrilhali mitha.** I went like that going about looking.

**yinanha** *Variant:* **yidnanha**. *pro.* you, second person singular accusative pronoun. *See:* **yini; nganha.**

**yindra-rna** *vi.* cry. **kanku yindrayi** The boy cried.

**yingkangu** *pro.* second person singular locative. **yatharna warayi yingkangu** I talked to you.



**yingkarni** *pro.* your, second person singular dative. **wata ngurra ngamarnanhi ngathu ngandrinhi yathayi, ngandrinhi yingkarnanhi** If you don't sit quiet I'll tell your mother.

**yingki-rna** *vdi.* give. **ngardanhi yingkiyi, nhuwa nhungkarnali thayirnanthu** Then he gave (some meat) to his wife to eat.

**yinha** *Variant: yidnha.* *pro.* you, second person singular accusative pronoun.

**yini** *Variant: yidni.* *pro.* you, second person singular nominative pronoun. *See: yundru; nganhi; nhawu; nhani.*

**yinka** *n.* string. string made from human hair. **ngardanhi pulali warayi yinka, wararna nhungkangu kankunhi** Then the two of them threw the string, throwing (it) to the boy.

**yinpa-rna** *vtr.* send.

**yipiyipi** *Variant: tyipityipi.* *n.* sheep.

**yirpa-rna** *vtr.* pull.

**yirripa-rna** *vtr.* warn.

**yirtyi-rna** *vi.* get up, arise, wake up. **ngardanhi thana yirtyiyi, wupalha** Then they got up to go. **yirtyiyamayi ngapa manirna karirranhi** Wake up and get water from the creek.

**yirtyipa-rna** *vtr.* make someone wake up, get someone up. **pulu yirtyipayi, muka nhawu ngurra thurayayi** I can't wake him up, he keeps sleeping.

**yula** *Variant: yudla.* *pro.* you two. *See: yini; yura.*

**yulya** *n.* police.

**yundru** *pro.* second person singular ergative case pronoun. *See: yini; ngathu; nhulu; nhandru.*

**yunka** *n.* jealous, sulky.

**yunkari-rna** *vi.* become jealous.

**yupa-rna** *vtr.* annoy, tease. **yupalha ngayananha thikayi kankuanku nhawu** The boy came back to annoy us.

**yura** *pro.* you all. *See: yini; yula.* **"Yura ngakarni nhantu yapa yingkirda purriyi."** You are making my horses afraid.

**yurika-rna** *vtr.* swallow. *See: thayi-rna; thapa-rna.*

**yuriku** *n.* throat.

**yurndayurnda** *n.* tadpole. *See: thinamara.*