

Verbs

Gamlaraay, Yuwaalaraay, Yuwaalayaay

| Verb class ¹ | Simple tenses | | | Continuous tenses | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|---|--|---|---|--|---|
| | Future ^{2,3} | Past | Command ⁴ | | Present ⁶ | Future | Past | Command |
| L-class | dha-li will eat | dha-y ate | dha-la eat! let's eat! | Non-moving ⁷ Moving ⁸ | dha-lda-nha dha-laa-nha is/am/are eating | dha-lda-y dha-laa-y will be eating | dha-lda-nhi dha-laa-nhi was/were eating | dha-lda-ya dha-laa-ya keep eating! |
| Y-class Ending in -a | bara-y will hop | bara-nhi hopped | bara-ya ⁵ hop! let's hop! | Non-moving Moving | bara-y-la-nha bara-waa-nha is/am/are hopping | bara-y-la-y bara-waa-y will be hopping | bara-y-la-nhi bara-waa-nhi was/were hopping | bara-lda-ya bara-waa-ya keep hopping! |
| Ending in -i | gubi-y will swim | gubi-nyi swam | gubi-ya swim! let's swim! | Non-moving Moving | gubi-y-la-nha gubi-yaa-nha is/am/are swimming | gubi-y-la-y gubi-yaa-y will be swimming | gubi-y-la-nhi gubi-yaa-nhi was/were swimming | gubi-y-la-ya gubi-yaa-ya keep swimming! |
| NG-class Ending in -a,-u | yulu-gi will dance | yulu-nhi danced | yulu-nga dance! let's dance! | Non-moving Moving | yulu-gi-la-nha yulu-waa-nha is/am/are dancing | yulu-gi-la-y yulu-waa-y will be dancing | yulu-gi-la-nhi yulu-waa-nhi was/were dancing | yulu-gi-la-ya yulu-waa-ya keep dancing! |
| Ending in -i | gi-gi will become | gi-nyi became | gi-nga become! let's become! | Non-moving Moving | gi-gi-la-nha gi-yaa-nha is/am/are becoming | gi-gi-la-y gi-yaa-y will be becoming | gi-gi-la-nhi gi-yaa-nhi was/were becoming | gi-gi-la-ya gi-yaa-ya keep becoming! |
| RR-class | wuu-rri will give | wuu-nhi gave | wuu-na give! let's give! | Non-moving Moving | wuu-dha-nha wuu-rraa-nha is/am/are giving | wuu-dha-y wuu-rraa-y will be giving | wuu-dha-nhi wuu-rraa-nhi was/were giving | wuu-dha-ya wuu-rraa-ya keep giving! |

¹ The **verb class** is seen in the ending on the future tense for each verb.

² The future tense form is used in the **dictionary** for all verbs, to show the verb class.

³ The future tense can have the meaning **will**, e.g. will eat, will hop. It can also have the meaning **might/could**, e.g. might eat, could hop.

⁴ We refer to the **command form** since it is technically mood, rather than tense.

⁵ An exception is the command form of the Gamlaraay verb yana-y (will) walk, come, go, which is **yana-nga**. The Yuwaalaraay/Yuwaalayaay word is yanaa-y,

⁶ The present continuous tense means something **happening now**, e.g. I am eating, or something which **always/often happens**, e.g. (I) eat (bread for lunch). It also shows **ability**, e.g. can eat, can swim, can dance.

⁷ The non-moving continuous tenses are used when something happens without moving, i.e. **on the spot**.

⁸ The moving continuous tenses are used when something happens while it is in linear motion, i.e. **while walking/running/being carried along**. They can also show a **change of state/situation**, or that something is **beginning to happen**.