

Gararrngan Yuulngin-ban.gaan

The Very Hungry Caterpillar

Words in the Gamilaraay translation

Translation by John Giacon, Hilary Smith, Winanga-Li (2023)

This translation was carried out in discussions with a reference group of Gamilaraay linguists and Elders at Winanga-Li. Some new words have been developed, using four main methods:

- Extending the meaning of a word already existing in Gamilaraay, e.g. *guri* for ‘apple’ as an extension of meaning from *guri* ‘emu apple’.
- Translating the parts of the word, e.g. *dhandarr milgin* for ‘ice cream’, from *dhandarr* ‘ice’ and *milgin* ‘milk’.
- Transliteration, i.e. using the English word but the sound system of Gamilaraay, e.g. *djiirr* for ‘cheese’.
- Developing a new word based on traditional patterns.

Days of the Week

For meanings, see the *Dictionary Supplement* (2017) available at www.yuwaalaraay.com (search for ‘week’).

Yaayaay – Sunday

Baalaay – Monday

Guwaybilaay – Tuesday

Muyaay – Wednesday

Yarraay – Thursday

Gindamalaay - Friday

Miriyaay – Saturday

Numbers

maal – one

bulaarr – two

gulibaa – three

buligaa – four

mara – five



Other words

For details of these words, see *The Gamilaraay Yuwaalaraay and Yuwaalayaay Dictionary* (2003), which can be downloaded at www.yuwaalaraay.com

For summaries of these grammatical terms, and usage of suffixes, etc., see *Wiidhaa: An introduction to Gamilaraay* (2020), which can be downloaded at <https://press.anu.edu.au/publications/textbooks/wiidhaa>

Gamilaraay to English

Gamilaraay	English	Part of speech	Notes (new words/meanings in shaded boxes)
<i>-aaba-li</i>	all	suffix	
<i>baabi-li</i>	(will) stay, sleep	verb (intransitive)	
<i>baay djirri</i>	cherry pie	noun	transliteration
<i>-bala</i>	but	suffix	
<i>balabalaa</i>	butterfly	noun	
<i>balamba</i>	salad	noun	extension of <i>balamba</i> ‘milk thistle, prickly lettuce’
<i>bambul</i>	orange	noun	extension of <i>bambul</i> ‘native orange’
<i>-ban.gaan</i>	very	adverb suffix	
<i>-Baraay¹</i>	having	suffix	
<i>barrabi-li²</i>	(will) extrude thread, make something by extruding thread (as a spider, caterpillar does)	verb (transitive)	extension of <i>barra</i> , ‘thread’; <i>-bi-li</i> means something like ‘move away’
<i>barragal</i>	cocoon	noun	<i>barra</i> ‘thread’ and <i>-gal</i> ‘many’
<i>bayn</i>	sore	adjective, noun	
<i>-bidi</i>	big	noun suffix	
<i>bigal</i>	pickle	noun	transliteration
<i>bilum-bidi</i>	watermelon	noun	<i>bilum</i> ‘little black-striped melon’ and <i>-bidi</i> ‘big’
<i>biruu</i>	hole	noun	
<i>biyarr</i>	pear	noun	transliteration
<i>bulayrr</i>	warm	adjective, noun	
<i>burraba-y</i>	(will) become	verb (intransitive)	
<i>dhab</i>	pop	exclamation	new word in GR, has been recorded in Wangaypuwan
<i>dhadhidji</i>	sausage	noun	transliteration
<i>dhalaami</i>	salami	noun	transliteration
<i>dha-li</i>	(will) eat	verb (transitive)	
<i>-dha-y</i>	associated with eating	verb suffix	
<i>-DHi</i>	from	noun and adjective suffix	
<i>dhirrabuu</i>	beautiful	adjective, exclamation	
<i>dhulu dhuga-baraay</i>	lollipop	noun	new word, ‘stick sugar-having’: <i>dhulu</i> ‘stick’, <i>dhuga</i> ‘sugar’, and <i>-baraay</i> ‘having’
<i>dhurra-li</i>	(will) come (up/out)	verb (intransitive)	

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<i>-DHuul (duul)</i>	small, little	noun and adjective suffix	
<i>djiirr</i>	cheese	noun	transliteration
<i>-du</i>	a form of <i>-Gu</i> ; shows the subject of a transitive verb	suffix of a transitive verb (subject, or 'doer-to')	
<i>gaay</i>	small	adjective, noun	
<i>gaba</i>	good, nice	adjective, noun	
<i>gamil</i>	no	particle	
<i>gararrngan</i>	caterpillar	noun	from <i>garaarr</i> 'grass'
<i>garril</i>	leaf	noun	
<i>gawarrawarr</i>	green	adjective, noun	
<i>gawu</i>	egg	noun	
<i>gayarra-gi</i>	(will) look for	verb (transitive)	
<i>gibu</i>	week	noun	
<i>gi-gi</i>	(will) become, get	verb (intransitive)	
<i>giirr</i>	truly	particle	
<i>gilay</i>	moon	noun	
<i>-gu</i>	for	suffix	
<i>gundhi</i>	house	noun	
<i>guri</i>	apple	noun	extension of meaning from <i>guri</i> 'emu apple'
<i>-guwaay</i>	like	suffix	
<i>guwiirr</i>	sweet	adjective, noun	
<i>guwiirr widja-dhuul</i>	cupcake	noun	from <i>guwiirr widja</i> 'cake, biscuit' and <i>-dhuul</i> 'little'
<i>marramba-y</i>	(will) be wrapped	verb (intransitive)	
<i>milgin dhandarr</i>	ice cream	noun	from <i>milgin</i> 'milk' and <i>dhandarr</i> 'ice'
<i>mubal</i>	stomach	noun	
<i>-na (-nha)</i>	short form of <i>nhama</i>	suffix	
<i>-ngabi-y</i>	at night	verb suffix	
<i>ngamumbirra</i>	plum	noun	extension of meaning from <i>ngamumbirra</i> 'native plum'
<i>ngay</i>	my	pronoun	

Gamilaraay	English	Part of speech	Notes (new words/meanings in shaded boxes)
<i>-ngayi-y</i>	in morning, tomorrow	verb suffix	
<i>-ngiili-y</i>	(do to) oneself	verb suffix	
<i>ngiyarra</i>	there	place adverb	
<i>nguru</i>	she/he ('doer to')	pronoun	
<i>-nha</i>	present tense after continuous verb suffixes	verb suffix	
<i>-nhi</i>	past tense for <i>-y</i> , <i>-gi</i> and <i>-rri</i> class verbs.	verb suffix	
<i>-nyi</i>	past tense for <i>-y</i> and <i>-gi</i> class verbs (after <i>i</i>)	verb suffix	
<i>-waa</i>	continuous moving	verb suffix	
<i>wamu</i>	fat	adjective, noun	
<i>widja</i>	cake		
<i>widja djagalarr-araay</i>	chocolate cake	noun	from <i>widja</i> 'bread', <i>djagalarr</i> 'chocolate' (transliteration), and <i>-araay</i> 'having' (a form of <i>-Baraay</i> , see above)
<i>wi-y</i>	(will) lie	verb (intransitive)	usually used with non-living things
<i>yaluu</i>	again	particle	
<i>yaraay</i>	sun	noun	
<i>yawurr</i>	strawberry	noun	extension of meaning from <i>yawurr</i> 'small berry'
<i>yilaa</i>	soon, then	time adverb	
<i>yurringga-li</i>	(will) push	verb (transitive)	
<i>yuul</i>	food	noun	
<i>yuulngin</i>	hungry	adjective	literally 'food-wanting'

¹ Also occurs as *-araay* after words that end in *rr* and *l*, e.g. *gamil-araay*. Capital letters are written for suffixes which change their form.

² The general principle in GYY languages is that, rather than use words/verbs based on the 'result', (e.g. kill, hit, make), they use the same word for the action and the result. So, *buma-li* is both 'hit' and 'kill' if the killing is done by hitting.

English to Gamilaraay

again	<i>yaluu</i>
all	<i>-aaba-li</i>
apple	<i>guri</i>
associated with eating (future)	<i>-dha-y</i>
at night (future)	<i>-ngabi-y</i>
be wrapped (future)	<i>marramba-y</i>
beautiful	<i>dhirrabuu</i>
become (future)	<i>burramba-y</i>
become, get (future)	<i>gi-gi</i>
big	<i>-bidi</i>
bread	<i>widja</i>
but	<i>-bala</i>
butterfly	<i>balabalaa</i>
caterpillar	<i>gararrngan</i>
cheese	<i>djiirr</i>
cherry pie	<i>baay djirri</i>
chocolate cake	<i>widja djagalarr-araay</i>
cocoon	<i>barragal</i>
come (up/out) (future)	<i>dhurra-li</i>
continuous moving	<i>-waa</i>
cupcake	<i>guwiirr widja-dhuul</i>
eat (future)	<i>dha-li</i>
egg	<i>gawu</i>
extrude thread (future)	<i>barrabi-li</i>
fat	<i>wamu</i>
food	<i>yuul</i>
for	<i>-gu</i>
from	<i>-DHi</i>
good, nice	<i>gaba</i>
green	<i>gawarrawarr</i>
having	<i>-Baraay</i>
hole	<i>biruu</i>
house	<i>gundhi</i>
hungry	<i>yuulngin</i>
ice cream	<i>milgin dhandarr</i>
in morning, tomorrow	<i>-ngayi-y</i>
leaf	<i>garril</i>
lie (future)	<i>wi-y</i>
like	<i>-guwaay</i>

lollipop	<i>dhulu dhuga-baraay</i>
look for (future)	<i>gayarra-gi</i>
moon	<i>gilay</i>
my	<i>ngay</i>
orange	<i>bambul</i>
no	<i>gamil</i>
oneself	<i>-ngiili-y</i>
past tense suffix for -y and -gi class verbs (after i)	<i>-nyi</i>
past tense suffix for -y, -gi and -rri class verbs	<i>-nhi</i>
pear	<i>biyarr</i>
pickle	<i>bigal</i>
plum	<i>ngamumbirra</i>
pop	<i>dhab</i>
present tense suffix after continuous verb suffixes	<i>-nha</i>
push (future)	<i>yurringga-li</i>
salad	<i>balamba</i>
salami	<i>dhalaami</i>
sausage	<i>dhadhidji</i>
she/he ('doer to')	<i>nguru</i>
short form of <i>nhama</i>	<i>-na (-nha)</i>
small	<i>gaay</i>
small, little	<i>-DHuul (duul)</i>
soon, then	<i>yilaa</i>
sore	<i>bayn</i>
stay, sleep (future)	<i>baabi-li</i>
stomach	<i>mubal</i>
strawberry	<i>yawurr</i>
sun	<i>yaraay</i>
sweet	<i>guwiirr</i>
there	<i>ngiyarrma</i>
truly	<i>giirr</i>
very	<i>-ban.gaan</i>
warm	<i>bulayrr</i>
watermelon	<i>bilum-bidi</i>
week	<i>gibu</i>