

1. Phonemic Structure

1.0. The Garadjari language departs in no detail from the commonly shared Australian phonemic pattern, and even at the phonetic level it has no peculiarities of its own. The sound system is shown on the phonemic level in the following Table:

CONSONANTS	Labial	Alveolar	Retroflex	Palatal (ʃ)	Velar
PLOSIVES	b	d	ḍ	dʃ	g
NASALS	m	n	ṇ	nʃ	ŋ
ROLLED		r			
LATERALS		l	ḷ	lʃ	
CONTINUATIVES	(w)	ɹ		j	(w) (ʷ)
VOWELS					
CLOSE		i			u
OPEN			a		

(ʃ) The palatals are indicated by digraphs here (instead of *ɟ*, *ɲ*, *ɟ*) as elsewhere, purely for orthographic ease.

(ʷ) The brackets indicate lip-rounding, which gives the consonant a double positioning.

.5. Stress

The following rules for stress may be given:

- a) Final stresses are possible only under two conditions: (i) when the vocative suffix -i/-u is added to the utterance: see 1.3.3.; (ii) that the word ends in a diphthong, e.g., /ŋa'wai/ 'yes'. It is on this basis that vowel clusters are interpreted as diphthongs or not, e.g., [gu(w)i] is best interpreted as /gu-wi/ rather than /gui/ as was done in the published texts.
- b) Stress tends to fall on the penultimate in words of two syllables: /'marŋu/'man', /'djanɔ/ 'woman'.
- c) In words of three syllables the stress is on the first: /'gangara/ 'up'; /'ŋanagu/ 'for what?'; /'wanadi/ 'it is'. Even /'wandi/ is heard for the last word.
- d) A long vowel carries the stress: /bi'la:wila/ 'a sole'.
- e) Words of more than three syllables usually carry the main stress on the penultimate, with subsidiary stress on the fourth or fifth syllable from the end: /,ganbalgu'jaŋan/ 'we'll cook it'; /,gali'guru/ 'boomerang'; /,waŋa'laru/ 'young men'; /,mira-'riŋgu ,gawa'bula/ 'in-the-hand carry-them-two'.

The fact that a word is a compound does not necessarily imply that the elements of it retain their original stresses; in /ja,njari'bula/ 'they two go', this is so: but in /'njunbula/ 'you two' = njundu, 'you' + bula 'two', bula is unstressed. Neither does the addition of a suffix necessarily change the stress: /ga'rimba/ is a marriage class name; /ga'rimbagu/ 'for garimba'; similarly with the class Banaga: /'banagagu/ 'for Banaga'.

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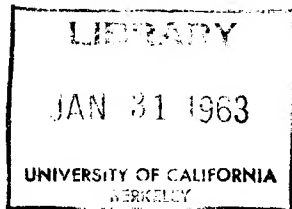
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