# APPENDIX 3
# Case Summary

This document has a summary of case form and case uses. Case is a linguistic term, used to refer to the way nominals (nouns, pronouns, adjective, demonstratives, etc.) are modified to show their function in a clause (this is a quick description of *case*). One case can have a number of functions.

Most of the material here is relevant to Gamilaraay 1, but some is for more advanced Gamilaraay.

**Note:** Case suffixes are not found on pronouns. There are special pronouns forms.

## Main cases

The table below summarises the form of the main cases for pronouns, other nominals and some irregular forms. It is followed by examples using these cases.

| Case | Examples of case forms | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **1st and 2nd person pronouns** follow the pattern of *ngaya* | **3rd person pronoun pattern** | **Other nominals** | | **Special** (only some given here) |
| | | | marking | example | |
| Nominative/doer | *ngaya (nginda)* | *=nha, nhama+* | Ø | *yinarr* | *minya* |
| Ergative/doer.to | *ngaya (nginda)* | *nguru* | *-Gu* | *yinarr-u* | *minya-dhu* |
| Accusative/ done.to | *nganha (nginunha)* | *=nha, nhama+* | Ø | *yinarr* | *minya* |

| Case | Examples of case forms | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **1st and 2nd person pronouns** follow the pattern of *ngaya* | **3rd person pronoun pattern** | **Other nominals** | | **Special** (only some given here) |
| | | | marking | example | |
| Dative/given.to/owner | *ngay (nginu)* | *ngurungu* | *-gu* | *yinarr-gu* | |
| Locative/at.on.in.near | *nganunda (nginunda)* | *ngurungunda* | *-Ga* | *yinarr-a* | |
| Allative/move.to | | | *-gu* | *yinarr-gu* | |
| Ablative/from | *nganundi (nginundi)* | *ngurungundi* | *-DHi* | *yinarr-i* | |

# Main functions of cases

## Nominative

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Verbless clause | *Yinggil ngaya. / Yinggil yinarr.* | I am tired. / The woman is tired. |
| Subject of **intransitive** verb | *Yanay ngaya. / Yinarr yanay.* | I will go. / The woman will go. |

## Ergative

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Subject of **transitive** verb | *Dhali ngaya nhama./ Dhali nhama yinarru.* | I will eat it. / The woman will eat it. |
| Instrument | *Dhali=nha yinarru, gula-gu.* | The woman will eat it with a fork. |

## Accusative

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Object of transitive verb. | *Ngamili ngaya yinarr.* | I will look at the woman. / I will see the woman. |

## Locative

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Place | *Burruluu nganunda.* | There are flies on me. |
| Person spoken to | *Garay ngaya guwaay yinarra.* | I talked to the woman. |

## Allative

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| movement to | *Yanay ngaya yinarrgu.* | I will walk to the woman. |

## Dative

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Possession | *Buruma yinarrgu.* | The woman's dog. |
| Recipient with *wuurri*. | *Yinarrgu giwiirr-u buruma wuurri.* | The man will give the dog to the woman. |
| Purpose | *Dhaay yinarr yananhi, galigu.* | The woman came here for water. |
| | Note that verbs can have *-gu* 'purpose' (future + *-gu*) | |
| Purpose | *Dhaay yinarr yananhi, dhaligu.* | The woman came here to eat. |

## Ablative (main uses below; there are others)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Movement from | *Yinarr-i ngaya banaganhi.* | I ran from the woman. |
| Fear of | *Yinarr-i ngaya giyal.* | I am afraid of the woman. |
| Laugh 'at' | *Yinarr-i ngaya gindama-nhi.* | I laughed at the woman. |
| With *wuru-gi* 'go in' | *Gundhi-dhi ngaya wuru-nhi.* | I went into the house. |
| With *galiya-y* 'climb' | *Gundhi-dhi ngaya galiya-nhi.* | I climbed on the house. |

# Be careful with these verbs

### guwaa-li '~tell'

*Garay guwaa-li* is 'talk' (*garay* 'word'). The 'spoken to' is in Locative case.

| | |
|---|---|
| *Garay ngaya guwaay yinarra.* | I talked to the woman. |

But *garay* can be replaced:

| | |
|---|---|
| *Gamilaraay giwiirr-u guwaay yinarra.* | The man talked Gamilaraay to the woman. |
| *'Yaama' ngaya guwaay yinarra.* | I said 'hello' to the woman. |

*Guwaali* can also be translated **'tell'** (something like 'ordered to do something'), and then the one spoken to is in Accusative case.

| | |
|---|---|
| *Yinarr-u nganha guwaay yana-y-gu.* | The woman told me to go. |
| *Yinarr-u giwiirr guwaay yana-y-gu.* | The woman told the man to go. |

### Wuurri 'give'

The thing given is Accusative, the recipient Dative.

| | |
|---|---|
| *Yinarr-u wiyayl wuunhi giwiirr-gu.* | The woman gave the pen to the man/gave the man the pen. |
| *Wiyayl ngaya nginu wuu-nhi.* | I gave you the pen. |

### Winanga-li 'listen, hear'

| | |
|---|---|
| *Winanga-y ngaya dhigaraa.* | I heard/listened.to the bird. |

**N.B.** Do not translate 'listen to' with Locative or Allative. The thing heard/listened to is **Accusative**.

### Ngami-li 'see, look at'

As with *winanga-li*, the thing perceived is **Accusative** case.

| | |
|---|---|
| *Ngami-y birralii-dhu dhigaraa.* | The child saw/looked.at the bird. |

# Other cases

The following suffixes are not categorised as cases in some descriptions. They are similar in some ways to the cases above, but are also different in some respects.

| Gamilaraay | English | Notes |
|------------|---------|-------|
| *-Baraay* | having | *-araay* after *l, rr* |
| *-DHalibaa* | without | can be *dalibaa* after *n, l, rr* |
| *-nginda* | wanting | |
| *-guwaay* | like | pronounced gwoi |

## Pronouns

These suffixes, like other case suffixes, are not found on pronouns. To translate 'with', as in 'go with you, her', use the Locative pronoun.

We do not know how to say: 'without you/him' and 'want you/her'.

My instinct is that *-guwaay* could follow a pronoun, but it would be good to see if this happens in other languages.

There are dual and plural forms of pronouns, so no suffixes are needed.

## For investigation

*Dhayali* 'ask' is a three place verb. **I** ask **you something**. The case structure is clear when the something is an action:

*Dhayay ngaya nginunha yanaygu.* 'I asked you to go.' (*nginunha* Accusative)

The case structure is not clear when something is a noun.

'I asked you the name of the town.'

Perhaps town Accusative you Locative, as happens with 'talk'.