

Using *Wiidhaa*

Learning another language is, as I said above, challenging – more so if this is the first time you have attempted to do this. *Wiidhaa* has 21 lessons. Each lesson has a vocabulary section, a grammar section that details some patterns or rules of the language, often some pronunciation guidance, example sentences and then suggested practice exercises.

You need to develop your own strategies for learning. Some learners like to use flash cards for vocabulary, or use online learning tools such as Quizlet and Memrise. A number of these have been developed for Gamilaraay 1. Pronunciation is difficult to learn without feedback – you often will not be aware of how you are saying words and sentences. It will help to listen to the sound files a number of times. These are incorporated in the electronic versions of this book, and are also available for download as mp3s – go to yuwaalaraay.com/advanced-learners.

As well as reading the grammar sections – the rules and examples – you can test your understanding with quizzes at gamilaraay.moodlecloud.com.

Perhaps the biggest challenge is developing conversational Gamilaraay – hearing and speaking it in real time. This needs practise. It helps if you can regularly meet with others to read Gamilaraay and to develop your own conversations.

As well as *Garay Guwaala 1* you will need other materials. The *Dictionary* (Ash, Lissarrague & Giacon, 2003) can be purchased at fivesenseseducation.com.au (search for Gamilaraay). It, and most of the other resources discussed, can be downloaded at yuwaalaraay.com. Often it is more convenient to use the finder list than the full dictionary. Since the dictionary was published (2003) some new words have been developed. These are found in the dictionary supplement, at the same site. It is planned to have an online dictionary. When this is finalised a link will be put on yuwaalaraay.com.

Gayarragi, Winangali is a wonderful resource. It is a computer program that has dictionary information, extensive sound, most of it from traditional speakers, songs, games and more. Download it from yuwaalaraay.com/online-resources.

Some materials, such as the picture dictionary, are available at tinyurl.com/gymoodle. Sign in as a guest.

Extension

Some lessons have extension material. This is for background only, and most of it is not something you will need to know for this course. It is more for interest and later courses. Ignore it if you wish.

Appendices

Appendices 2 to 5 are generally helpful when you have already worked through a topic and need to check some detail. They summarise material covered in *Garay Guwaala 1*, but also have more detailed and advanced information on the topic.

The appendices are:

- Appendix 1: Resources
- Appendix 2: Pronunciation Guide
- Appendix 3: Case Summary
- Appendix 4: Verb Summary
- Appendix 5: Pronoun Summary with Pronoun Chart from *Gaay Garay Dhadhin*
- Appendix 6: Wordlist

This text is taken from *Wiidhaa: An Introduction to Gamilaraay*,
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