The materials for learning Kanuri are designed for the language training of Peace Corps volunteers. They include lessons organized around ten themes: introductions (others, family, greetings and condolences); expressing one's needs; shopping; the tailor; meals; giving and getting directions; travel; daily activities; and gardening. Lessons include lists of vocabulary and expressions to be learned, grammar notes, additional useful expressions, exercises, and in some cases, cultural notes. (MSE)
Manuel de Kanuri

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THEME I

GREETINGS : INTRODUCTIONS
## Competency № 1:
To greet and take leave

### Vocabulary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Leadu</td>
<td>To greet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A'a</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awi</td>
<td>What</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aaa</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bari</td>
<td>Tomorrow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bawo</td>
<td>Not (non existent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dabdu</td>
<td>To spend a day/a day spent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dondi</td>
<td>ill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fado</td>
<td>Home/house</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inda</td>
<td>How</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ini</td>
<td>It's not</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kajiri</td>
<td>Afternoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kasumba</td>
<td>Fatigue/tiredness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kida</td>
<td>Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Klewa</td>
<td>Well/allright/health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuttu</td>
<td>Not fine/sad/Not good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nawu</td>
<td>How much</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuri</td>
<td>Child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saa</td>
<td>Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salây</td>
<td>(Intensifier used only with Klewa)- Very well</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sayi</td>
<td>When</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Say</td>
<td>Until</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suwa</td>
<td>Morning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tiy - Body
To - Ok, all right
Tushia - Later
Ushe - Hello
Wadu - To wake up/waking up!
Yal - Family
Yawa - (Answer to ushe) could also mean 'aha I expect it'
Yo - OK

Expressions:

Inda dabdu? - Good afternoon (Litt. how is the day spent)
Inda wadu? - Good morning (Litt. how is waking up)
Dabdu klewa - Well (Litt. the day spent is alright)
   In response to inda Dabdu
Wadu klewa - Well (litt : waking up is alright)
   In response to inda Wadu
Klewa salay - Very well
Klewa’a? - Is it alright?
Klewa num? - Are you well? (Litt: Your health?)
Klewa, ni. - I’m well/fine
Klewa nju? - Is he well? (Litt: his health?)
Klewanju. - He is well.
Dabdunowo klewan - Have a good day (spend the day well)
Wanowo klewan - Have a good night (wake up well)
Inda kida? - How is work?
Kida sa’an ju - It is going on (litt. it is work’s time)
Say bari - See you tomorrow (litt. until tomorrow)
Say tushia - See you later (litt. until later)
Inda ka sumba - Are you tired? (litt. how about fatigue)
Kasumba bawo - I'm not tired (litt. there is no fatigue)
Klewa Saley - Alright or all right

At any time one can also ask this informal greeting:
Awi yei? - What's up?
The answer can be Klewa salay.

Adverbs:
Runi (on my own)
Runum (on your own)
Runju (on his own)
Runde (on our own)
Rundo (on your own)
Runja (on their own)
Dige/diye (simply, merely)
Gnia If it is not = except.

Liste of useful expressions:
Gawursene Excuse me
Kji/ngla/to Tasty/good
Kna faki I'm hungry
Yimbarukena I'm tired
Klani cirundi I have a headache
Ngalaro knum dikna I slept well
Raako/Raeko I need / I like
Wanikna I don't like
Rikeni I've not understand
U jorini I'm not stupid
Jire
Cidena -
Kausua
Kmuwu faki
Zauro keruwua
Zau yaye ruwune
Inda ... ?
Bannassu ene
Rangume saddu wumia -
Bayani ce
Naran ... ?
Awi ye in wuljay ?
Yuwot kekena
Rangume fu lan waldu mia ?
Dama takeni
Cinnada kane
Awiro
Inda ye nin ?
Sawi
Nara lenimi ?
Awi raam ?
Sa nawu nin mota da leji ?
Zau yaye
To/ylo
Gudu faki
U dondi
Tiy ni kuttu
Knum faki
It's true
It's enough
It's hot
I'm hot
It's very windy
Write, please
Where ?
Help me
Can you accompany me ?
Explain it to me
Where is ... ?
How do we say ?
I've lost ...
Can you come back later ?
I don't have time
Open the door
Why ?
How ?
When
Where are you going ?
What do you want ?
What time does the car leave ?
Please
OK
I'm thirsty
I'm ill
I'm ill
I'm sleepy
...Rasko
Fakni
Jire eni
Kakua
Rumbaa ?
Zau yaye wolle wulle
Kalala ronowo
Gum deo
Cinna da jane, zaw yaye

I like ...
I have not heard
It’s false – It’s not true.
It’s cold
Have you seen it?
Please, say it again
Be quiet!
Be quiet!
Shut the door, please.

---

Grammar

Subject pronouns in kanuri:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Kanuri</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>U</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You</td>
<td>Ni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He/She/It</td>
<td>Ti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We</td>
<td>Andi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You(pl)</td>
<td>Nandi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They</td>
<td>Tandi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* These pronouns are only used to make clear who the subject is, otherwise they are not used in sentences.
Possessive pronouns in kanuri

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Kanuri</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>My</td>
<td>Ni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your</td>
<td>Num</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>His/Her/Its</td>
<td>Nju</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our</td>
<td>Nde</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your(pl)</td>
<td>Ndo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Their</td>
<td>Nja</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The possessive pronouns are suffixed to the nouns:

Ex: Fadoni ___ my house; Baanju ___ his father

The negative possessive is formed by adding "ini" to the combined noun - possessive pronoun.

Ex: fadoni ___ my home; fadoni ini ___ it's not my home.
Baanju ___ his father; baanju ini ___ it's not his father.

Use of 'inda': 'inda + noun is used to inquire about the state of people and their surrounding during greetings.

Ex: Inda fado ? how is home ? Fado klewa - Name well.

Daddu (to spend a day)

(U) Dabduniki .... I spend the day  | (U) Wanuki ..... I wake up
(Ni) Dabdunimi.... You spend the day | (Ni) Wanumi....You wake up
(Ti) Dabduji...He/She spends the day | (Ti) Waji...He/She wakes up
(Andi) Dabduniye....We spend the day  | (Andi) Waniye...We wake up
(Nandi) Dabdunuwi....You spend the day | (Nandi) Wanwii....You wake up
(Tandi) Dabdujan...They spend the day | (Tandi) Wajay....They wake up

Note: The simple present tense has the same form as the future tense e-i the above conjugation is also in future tense.
(See index for more details)

In kanuri, the subject pronouns are not used in sentence except to put an emphasis on the subject doing the action.

Ex: 'wanuki' is more commoun than 'u wanuki'.
Questions are made by adding 'wa' to the final word or merely raising the tone. The negative form is made by adding "wawo" to the conjugated form of the verb except 2nd person singular (has its negative by suppressing the ending 'i' and replacing it by 'bawo').

Ex : Dabdaji wawo - He doesn't spend the day.
     Dabdunimbawo - You don't spend the day.

Use of 'bawo' : bawo is used to state that something is not.

Ex : Klewa bawo/klewaini - It is not all right.
     Nuri bawo - There is no child.

Notice that 'bawo' is placed at the end of the sentences.

Exercises :

N°1 : Fill in the missing parts of these two greeting dialogues.

Suwa Kajiri :
A : inda.....?  A : inda.....?
B:..........   B:..........   
A : inda fado ? A:..........?
B:..........   B:.......... 
A : inda kind ? A:..........?
B:..........   B:.......... 

N°2 : Give a negative answer to the questions below :

a- Klewanum ?
b- Klewanju ?
c- Fado numwa ?
d- Kidanjuwa ?
e- Dabdunumi wa ?

N°3 : Translate these expressions into Kanuri :

I'm well; Our home is all right; Their child is not well; Your job is going on.
Counting from 1 to 20 findi komme:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tilo/fal</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indi/Yindi</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yakkuyasku</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deou/dewu</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uwu</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arakkuyarasku</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tulur</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wusku</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ligar</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mewu</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mewun (lukko) tilon</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mewun (ii) indin</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mewun (ii) yakkun</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mewun (ii) dewun</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mewun deri</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mewun lukko uwun</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mewun (lukko) arakkun</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mewun (ii) tulurin</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mewun(lukko) wusku</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mewun laari</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Findi</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* The use of lukko (and/plus) is optional.
* Numbers coming after ten (=mewu) have the tens and the units ending with n, e, g: mewun tilon = 11.
EXPRESSIONS:

Nawu/dawu/nanqu - How many/how much.
Fandon kam nawu? - How many people are there in your family?
Kurwunum nawu? - How old are you?
Kakadu nawu tam? - How many books have you got?
Competency N° 2

Introduction

Vocabulary

Afuno
Buduma
Ako
Awima
Barema
Bla
Cidi
Cu
Dara/nara
Dawu
Dio
Dga
Fulata
Jabaroma
Kam Niger ye
Kam Amerik ye
Kanuri
Kam
Kandine/Buzu
Knde/knso
Krgam

- Hausa
- Buduma (a kanuri branch)
- There
- Any
- Farm worker/farmer
- City/village
- Country/land
- Name
- Where
- How much
- To do
- To live (in a place)
- Fulani
- Zarma
- A person of Niger
- A person of America
- Kanuri
- Person
- Tuareg
- To come
- To dwell/to stay
Krama
   - Now
Kurwu
   - Age/year
Kiari
   - Old man
Kla
   - Self/head
Kmaski
   - Neigh bor
Kumurjo
   - Old woman
Kskama
   - Woodseller
Lardu
   - Region
Ladoma
   - Seller
Lokolma
   - Student
Laa
   - An/a (article)
Lokotor
   - Doctor/nurse
Malam lokol
   - Teacher
Motoma
   - Driver/car owner
Nassara
   - European (westerner esp. white)
Nin/lan
   - In/from
Nda
   - Where (used when looking for a place)
Sawi/sabi
   - When
Sawa
   - Friend
Suni
   - Herdsman
Towo
   - Over there
Ye
   - Of (possession)
Ungo
   - Here
Wasiri
   - Arab
Wundu
   - Who/What
EXPRESSIONS:

Wundu Cunum?  What is your name?
Cuni X  My name is X
Ako sawani  There is my friend
Daranin Kadim?  Where did you come from?
Fado nin Kadiko  I came from home
Kurwu num dawu?  How old are you? (litt how many are your year?)
Kurwu ni 26  I’m 26 (litt my years are 26)
Towo kiari la  an old man over there
Awi cu bla num ye  What is your town’s name?
Cu bla ni ye Denver  My town’s name is Denver
Awi kinda num?  What is your work?
U barema  I am a farm worker/a famer
Kida awiza ye dikiwawo  I don’t have a job (litt don’t do any work)
Dara nin Kragam?  Where do you stay?
Hamdallay nin kergako  I’m staying in Hamdallaye
Ni kam dara ye?  What is your nationality (you are a person from where?)
Dara nin Dgam?  Where do you live?
Niamey nin dqako  I live in Niamey
Dga and krga mean  To live or to stay.

Grammar

Conjugation of the verbs to come, to do, and to live. The use of subject pronouns is not necessary unless one needs to put emphasis on the person doing the action.

Verb to come: (Kno)

Present and future  Past  Negative (past)

13

16
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present tense affirmative form</th>
<th>Past tense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Verb</strong>: Dio = to do</td>
<td>Dimba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dimi</td>
<td>cidina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cidi</td>
<td>Diyena</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diye</td>
<td>Diywa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diywu</td>
<td>Cadina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cadi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Daga**: to live (a place)

Present:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dgaki.....I live</th>
<th>Past tense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Degami....You live</td>
<td>Dgakena...I lived</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dgay....He/She lives</td>
<td>Dgamba...You lived</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dgaye....We live</td>
<td>Dgana...He/She lived</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dgawu....You live</td>
<td>Dgayena...We lived</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dassay....They live</td>
<td>Dgawa...You lived</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dassaana....They lived</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The negative of the past is formed by changing the ending of the verbs as follow.

U (I) : with the first person replace the verb's last vowel with "i"

ex : dikna (I have done); dikni (I haven't done)

Ni (you) : with the 2nd person replace the verbs last syllable with "mi". ex : dimmi

Ex: Dimba (you have done); Dimmi (you haven't done)

Ti (he/she) : with the 3rd person replace the verbs last vowel with "i";

Ex: cidina (he/she has done); (he/she hasn't done) = Cidini

Andi (we) : with "we" replace the verbs last vowel with "da".

Ex : Diyena (we have done); Diyende (we haven't done)

Nandi (you) : with "you" replace the verbs last vowel with "i"

Ex : Diuwa (you have done); Diuwi (you haven't done)

Tandi (they) : with "they" replace the verbs last vowel with "i"

Ex : Cadina (they have done); Cadini (they haven't done)

EXERCISES:

1. Give the negative forms of these statements.

   1. Cuni Moussa - neg -A'a, cuni Moussa ni.
   2. Kanada lan kadic
   3. kurwuni 30
   4. Andi am France ye
   5. U barema
   6. Miane jani Kirgako
   7. Hamdallaye nin kurwu ni yakku
   8. Abdou Hanza kam Amerik ye

   15

   18
N° 2 Complete these statement by using an appropriate word:

Kodic, findi, bare, uwu, Georges.
1 Sawani cunju,........
2 Amerik lan...........
3 Kurwunju.............
4 Kidanju............
5 Kannaanju (give a figure)

N° 3 Translate these sentences into English.

Ti Nasara; Ni Kanuri; Niwundu; Wuafunum; Ti Nasara wa; Aà Ti Nasara; A'a Ti fulata; Kan la Issana; Ti ferowa; Aà Ti fero; Adi Kamu; Ani Kamuwa.

N° 4 Ask questions on the underlined words.

Example : Amerik lan kádio - Nara lan kádio?

1. Cunju Georges.
2. Hamdallaye nin kida cidi.
4. Kurwunju fiasku
5. Sawanju lokotor

X-Culture

Greetings are at the heart of every communication among the kanuri people. The first thing to do when encountering a person is to greet him before starting any business with him. To not greet is considered a show of hostility and can indicate a disagreement between two persons. (The word "klewa"carries also the idea of peace).

Also in the process of greeting people ask about most, if not all of the other person's surroundings family and belongings. To show special interest ask about members of family by calling them by their names, if possible.

Men and women (particularily married) do not normally shake hands. Hugging is unknown.

A young person does not look into the eyes of elders.
Vocabulary

amidda
baa
baedu
bawwa
diwu
durr
fero
gagi
inna
Kā’a
kamu
kanna
kemi
keru
konguwā
krami
ksay
kwa
larusa
Niadu
rawa

A young woman
Father
To die
Step-mother/aunt
Grandson/grand-daughter
A relative
A young girl
A young son/younger daughter
Niece (may mean also aunt)
Grandfather/grandmother
Woman/lady
Younger brother/younger sister
Co-wife
Elder son/daughter
Man/husband
Relative/younger sister/brother
In-law
Husband
Marriage/newly wed
To marry/to get married
Uncle
Ta

To have

tada

Boy/son

Tambo

To be born

Tardu

To divorce/to separate

ya

Mother

yeya

Older brother/sister

**Grammar**

**Demonstrative adjectives**:

Adi/Adu

this

Ani

these

**Examples**: Adu baani : This is my father

Ani kannaani : These are my junior brothers and sisters.

In a sentence adjectives must be placed after the noun.

**Exemple**: Kamu adu klowandju : this woman’s health is fine.

This woman is fine.

**Expressions**:

Adu kamuni

This is my wife.

Adu kannani

This is my younger brother

Kanna dawu ?

How many younger brothers have you got

Awi cu rawanumbe ?

What is the name of your uncle? or what is your uncle’s name?

Ani juria wunduye ?

Whose children are these?

In Kanuri, the plural is formed by adding "a" to the singular noun.
Plural forms of some words

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>singular</th>
<th>plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>durr</td>
<td>a relative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ferro</td>
<td>feroa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kamu</td>
<td>a woman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kemi</td>
<td>a co-wife</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>konguwa</td>
<td>a man</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ksay</td>
<td>an in-law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>durra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>kamua</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>kemia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>konguwa’a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ksaya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>relatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>girls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>co-wives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>in laws</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conjugation:

Simple past tense

Ta - to have

(U) takna ------------> I have
(Ni) tamba ------------> You have
(Ti) cidana ----------> He/she has
(Andi) tayena --------> We have
(Nandi) tawa ----------> You have
(Tandi) cazana/cadana---> They have

X-Culture: Sharing the heritage

The Kanuri society use the Islamic law to share the heritage, according to this law males members receive 2 shares. Male members get shares because they have the full responsability and duty to take care of the women and children. A woman does not call her first child, her husband and her in-laws by their names. She uses chosen nickname instead.
Exercises:

N° 1 Answer these questions

1. Wundu cu kannanum ye ?
2. Fando nin kam nawu ?
3. Rawanum kurwunjju nawu ?
4. Awi kida baanum ye ?
5. Lokolwu nawu klass adu lan ?

N° 2 Translate these statements into Kanuri

1. His father has two wives.
2. I have a friend called David.
3. I don't have any friend.
4. Where does your friend work.
5. We have three children: two boys and one girl.
6. We are seven in my family.

N° 3 You pay a visit to a family and you talk to the father. After greeting him, answer these questions he may ask you.

1. Wundu cunum ?
2. Kurwu num nawu ?
3. Yalla num nawu ?
4. Lokol cadia ?
5. Awi kidanum ?
6. Tada num larusa cidina a ?
7. Fero wundu ye niajo ?
N° 4 Translate these sentences into kanuri

1 - I have six grand-children.
2 - My in laws have come.
3 - These are his sons.
4 - Their husband has not come.
5 - My son is getting married.

Proverb: Kam fadoa koljina di, fado tia kolji.
"Whoever flees home has lost home".
COMPETENCE:
Greetings and introduction
Express Condoleances

Vocabulary

Alà  God
Assir  Secret
Barka  Blessing, congratulations
Ci    Mouth
Dio   To do
Jektu  To shut/to protect
Kamboy Light/not heavy
Katti  Sand
Kura  Big
Kuradu  To grow up
Salla Prayer/feast

CONGRATULATIONS:  BIRTH

Barka kla fondoro!  Thank God you have safely delivered!
            (Said to the woman).
Alà klewan kurajo!  May God let him grow up in good health
            (Reference made to the newly born baby).

Answer: AMEN

Feast celebration

Barka da salla!  Happy feast!

Answer: Barka da Salla

After someone had a close shave/or narrow escape

Barka! Alà assirnum jekjo.  May God protect you!

Answer: Amen
Condolences

Niger’s population being largely musilm, people cite some verses of the Koran to the bereaved family or person so the deceased may rest in peace. In addition to the verses a kanuri can add.

Alà Katizu Kamboyro cido! May God make the sand over him light!
THEME II

EXPRESSING
ONE'S NEEDS
COMPETENCY
EXPRESSING ONE'S NEEDS
KRAONUM WULLE

Vocabulary

Al-alam
Ampul/kori
Arozoir
Ashana
Bal
Bar
Batr
Blama
Bri
Bruet
Buke
Cakol
Diga
Dgi
Fado hayaye
Fatela
Gawodi
Ingi
Jene
Kakadu
Kalwu
Karwun
Kassala
Kasuwu
Katiwa
Kida
Kidama
Kna
Knum
Kwano
Madu
Namushe
Ngudu
Otel
Post
Suno
Taga
Teta/kekema
Torsi
Wando
Pen/pencil
Bulb
Watering can
Matches
Beer/alcoholic drink
Bar
Batteries
Chief of the village
Food
Wheelbarrow
Dance
Spoon/fork
Pick
Bed
A house to rent
Lamp
Toilet
Water
Wrapper/dagna
Paper/book
Shirt
Medecine
Bath/Shower
Market
Mattress
Work
Workman
Hunger
Sleep
Plate/container
To look for
Mosquito net
Thirst
Restaurant
Post office
Shoes/Sandals
Cup/container
Tailor
Flash light
Trousers.
List of verbs

Bó
Fandu
Fomdu
Ja
Kassaltu
Kra
Krao
Madu
Waddu

To eat
To feel/to hear
To walk around/to go for a walk
To drink
To take a bath/a shower
To study/to read
To like/to love
To look for
To dislike/to refuse.

Conjugation of 'madu'=to look for

Simple present tense (aff.)

Verb : madu - to look for (subj+noun+verb)
U inqi maki - I look for water -(lit:I water look for)
Ni inqi manumi - You look for water.
Ti inqi maji - He/she looks for water
Andi inqi maniye - We look for water.
Nandi inqi manuwi - You look for water.
Tandi inqi majay - They look for water.

Fandu to feel Conjugation of 'fandu'=to feel

Simple present (aff.)

U kna faniki - I am hungry
Ni kna Fanimi - You are hungry
Ti kna fanji - she/he is hungry
Andi kna faniye - We are hungry
Nandi kna fanuwi - You are hungry
Tandi kna fanjay - They are hungry

Expressions

Knun faksi - I'm sleepy
Ngudu fanji - He is thirsty
Suno maki - I'm looking for a pair of shoes
Sunoni maki - I am looking for my pair of shoes

Simple present (negative form)

The negative is formed by adding wao to the conjugated form of the verb except for the second person singular when the "i" is dropped and "bao" is added.

Faniki---I feel
Fanimi---You fell
Fanikibao-----I don’t feel
Fanimbao------you don’t feel
Possessive pronouns

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kanuri</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Kanuri</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kakke</td>
<td>mine</td>
<td>Kakkeini</td>
<td>not mine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaanum</td>
<td>yours</td>
<td>Kaanumini</td>
<td>not yours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaan’ju</td>
<td>his/her</td>
<td>Kaajuini</td>
<td>not his/her</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaando</td>
<td>yours</td>
<td>Kaando ini</td>
<td>not yours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaanja</td>
<td>theirs</td>
<td>Kaanjaini</td>
<td>not theirs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The negative possessive is formed by adding ini to the possessive

EXPRESSIONS

Adi Kakke This is mine.
Ani Kaanju These are his.
Toni Kaanja Those are theirs.
Feroa ani Kaanju These girls are his(daughters).

Exercises

I) Translate the following sentences into Kanuri.

1. This book is mine.
2. That pen is not hers.
3. This house is theirs.
4. Those spoons are yours.
5. This shirt is not his.

II) Write the possible questions to which these sentences are answers:

1. Battri adi Kakke.
2. Kakadua ani Kaanju.
5. Cakola adi Kaande.

II) Give the plural forms of the following words and use them in oral sentences.

Karwun - Dgl - Fatila - Suno - Kwano - Otel

IV) Give the negative forms of these expressions

1. Ingi maniye
2. Bad Casay
4. Sunoa ani Kakke.
To count from 1 to 100:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arabic</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tilo/fal</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indi/yindi</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yakku/yasku</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dewu</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uwu</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arakku/arasku</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tulur</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wusku</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ligar</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mewu</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mewun (lukko) tilon</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mewun (ii) indin/Mewun Yindin</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mewun (ii) yakkun</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mewun (ii) dewun</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mewun deri</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mewun (lukko) uwun</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mewun (lukko) arakkun</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mewun (ii) tulurin</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mewun(lukko) wuskun</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mewun (ii) laari</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mewun laari</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Findi</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fyakku/Fyasku</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fidewu</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiuwu</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firakku/Firasku</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fitulur 70
Fiusku/Fisku 80
Filarr 90
Miya(yar fal/tilo) 100

The use of lukko is required to clarify particularly in long numbers; when lukko is used, both the tens figures and the unit figures must be marked with the postposition.

Also fi = ten (e.g.: fi tultur = 7 tens).

Exercises:

1. Translate the figure in brackets into Kanuri and use them as answers to the questions. Make complete sentences:
   e.g. Awi maji ? (2 books).
        Kakadu indi maji.

   5. Ashana nawu madam maji ? (3).
   6. Nawu ro bri buye curo kawu fal nin ? (3).
   7. Jika nawu kndau lan gonimi ? (100,000 F).
   10. Mota nawu lokol adi nin taw ?(6).

2. Read about the following figures and use them in sentences

   11.
   14.
   16.
   18.
   20.
   23.
   25.
   60.
   75.
   85.
THEME III

SHOPPING
Competency No. 4: Shopping

Vocabulary

Are - Come (imperative; pl. Arowo)
Bedu - To pay
Budu - Cheap
Canji - Change
Dibi - Bad
Gana - Small
Grdo - To reduce
Jio/yio - To buy
Kaawu/Kori - Short
Kedu - To choose
Kudo - To bring
Kuru - Long
Ladoali - To Sell
Ladoma - Seller
Lambo - Number
Nguwu - A lot of
Ro - To/for
Yirga - To add
Wa/-a - And
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Animal</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wuri/kunguna</td>
<td>Money</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zaw/jaw</td>
<td>Expensive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Za/da</td>
<td>The</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Animals:**

- Buni - Fish
- Dal - (He) goat
- Dalo - OX
- Fe - Cow
- Frr - Horse
- Kani - (She) goat
- Karimo/Karguino - Camel
- Kuwui - Hen
- Laman - Live stock
- Ngalaro - Sheep

**Food/ingredients:**

- Arum - Millet
- Barwuno - Hot pepper
- Da - Meat
- Dangari - Sweet potatoe
- Dayino - Date
- Doya - Cassava
- Goro - Kolanut
- Kolji - Peanut
- Lawasar - Onion
- Lemun - Lemon
- Lemunkano - Orange

---

35
Masarmi - Maize
Ngwul - egg
Rungo
Shinkawa - Cereal flour
Suwur - Rice
Tumatun - Sugar
- Tomato

Things:
Baono - Hoe
Buji - Mat
Grassan - Thread
Gurumba - Hat
Je - Rope
Leme - Necklace
Radio - Radio
Riwura - Needle
Sawul - Soap
Sigari - Cigarettes
Suno - Sandals/Shoes
Tawa - Tobacco (for chewing)

Colors:
Arin - Blue
Bul (fak) - White
Culum (pat) - Black
Kime (cit) - Red
Kri (jirt) - Green
Kurnum - Yellow

* The words in bracket are used to emphasize the color.
Monetary system:

- **Gursu** - Monetary unit
- **one gursu equals** - (5) francs CFA
- **Miya (100 gursu)/yar** - 500 F CFA
- **Jika/Yar yindi** - 100 F CFA
- **Naira (N) fcfa** - Currency of NIGERIA 100 Kobo = 30 (gursu arraku)
- **Kobo** - 1/100 Naira
- **Sile** - 10 kobo
- **Kandoki/kadogo** - 25 F CFA Coin

*‘gursu’ is used before the number for any amount of CFA money between 5 F CFA and 995 F CFA. From 1000 F up the counting unit is jika. Thus we have jika tilo (1000 F); Jika yindi (2000 F); etc…*

*In the case of an amount of money added to thousand (like 1570 F CFA = Jika wa gursu miyan fitulurwa), the jika is used with ‘wa’ before the gursu.*

Expressions:

- **Nawu nawu?** - How much does it cost?
- **Nawuro ladami?** - For how much will you sell it?
- **Albarka! article is** - It is not a good price (litt. the worth more than that)
- **Gana virgay** - add a little (more)
- **Nawu biyanumi?** - How much (will) you pay?
- **Wuri za kude** - Bring the money
- **Adi zaw; grne** - This is expensive; reduce the price
- **Are, sawul yiwe** - Come, buy some soap
- **Krene** - Choose (imperative/sing)
- **Krenowo** - Choose (imperative/pl)
- **Adi dawu?** - How much does this cost?
- **Biane** - Pay
Grammar  (See the index for details)

The two uses of 'ro' (=to and for)

a) ro as a preposition is equivalent to the English 'to' and 'for' when it occurs after a noun:

e.g., Kassuro lekna - I have gone to the market

Nawuro cilado? - For how much did he sell?

b) ro is used to make adverbs when it occurs after an adjective:

e.g., Ngwuro ro - much

Kuru ro - farther/far

Conjugation: of lado (to sell) and jio (to buy)

Lado - to sell:

Present (same form with the future tense) 1st Past

Lado = To sell

(U) ladiki - I sell (U) Ladikna - I have sold
(Ni) ladimi - You sell (Ni) Ladima - You have sold
(Ti) Ciladi - He/she sells (Ti) Ciladina - We/she has sold
(Andi) Ladiye - We sell (andi) ladiyena - We have sold
(Nandi) laduwi - You sell (Nandi) laduwa - You have sold
(Tandi) caladli - You sell (Tandi) caladana - They have sold

Present tense of: Jio = to buy Past tense of: Jio = to buy

Jio = To buy

(U) Yiwuki - I buy (U) Yiwukna - I have bought
(Ni) Yiwumi - You buy (Ni) Yiwumba - You have bought
(Ti) Ciwui - He/she buys (Ti) Ciwuna - He/she have bought
(Andi) Yiwuye - We buy (Andi) Yiwuyena - We have bought
(Andi) Yiwuwi - You buy (Nandi) Yiwuwa - You have bought
(Tandi) Casiwui - They buy (Tandi) Casiwa - They have bought.

Note: The ending of the second person singular in the past can be -ba or ma:

Ladima (you have sold) = Ladimba.
Yiwumba (you have bought) = Yiwuma.
Exercises:

N° 1: In this exercise situations in the market are presented. You have to write the appropriate response in Kanuri.

a) You come across a mat seller. What is an appropriate question?

.................................................................
...........

b) A seller tells you that shorts you want to buy cost 10,000 F. What will you answer?

.................................................................
...........

c) You want to buy some groundnuts but the seller has already sold out. How does she explain this to you?

.................................................................
...........

d) You are planning to buy a horse. How do you announce this to your friends?

.................................................................
...........

e) You are looking for some soap. How do you explain this to the seller?

.................................................................
...........

f) What does a seller say in order to have you tell your price?

.................................................................
...........

g) A seller wants to sell you an item you don’t like. What will you tell him?

.................................................................
...........

h) What does a seller say to show that the price you gave is very low?

.................................................................
...........

N° 2: Make a short dialogue between you and a seller supposing you want to buy sandals: after completing of the dialogue read it or act it out in front of class.
Proverb:
* Kassu tarji yaye Fatkema riwa jwuna.
   Even if the market is interrupted, the seller would have made gains.

X-culture:
- Always greet the seller
- Don't sniff items you are purchasing particularly if it is food. (except of course perfumes).
- Don't give or take anything with your left hand.
- Be careful not to let a hawker go look for change unless he leaves his goods with you. (Otherwise he may vanish with your money).
- If you buy a lot of things from one seller he may (in most cases) give you a small gift.
THEME IV

AT THE

TAILOR'S
## Competency N°5:
At the tailor's

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vocabulary</th>
<th>Kekema</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alam</td>
<td>Flag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adiko</td>
<td>women's headscarf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Araw</td>
<td>Turban</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brin</td>
<td>New</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buton</td>
<td>Button</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buzu/Kandin</td>
<td>Tuareg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canja</td>
<td>Waist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>canduna</td>
<td>It is pretty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawwu</td>
<td>Collar (neck)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dudo</td>
<td>To sew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fska fiduwu</td>
<td>To embroider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grdo</td>
<td>To reduce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gari</td>
<td>Big garment worn by men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Godadu</td>
<td>To try</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guqe</td>
<td>Ironing/the iron itself</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gumaje</td>
<td>Shirt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jallabia</td>
<td>Boubou (long garment worn men)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jampa</td>
<td>Jumper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jawa</td>
<td>Cap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jene</td>
<td>Wrapper/pagna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jolejole</td>
<td>Multicolor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Kajimo - Clothes/garment
Kamzu - To cut
Kaleso - Pants
Kumboram - Right hand
Keke - Sewing machine
Kekema - Tailor
Kekemadi - Tailor's workshop
Kura - Big
Kuraduwu - To enlarge
Kot - Coat
Ludu - To put on
Maasu - Scissors
Mukko - Sleeve (arm)
Ngaldu - To measure
Nganji - Chest
Ngawa - Shoulders
Ngawo - Back
Riwu - Pocket
Rob - Gown
Sar sarra - Striped
Shawa - Pleasing
Si/Shi - Leg
Tela - Tailor
Waldu - To return
Wando/yange - Trousers
Wando gazere - Shorts
Wayla - Left hand
Yadi/batta - Piece of cloth/material
Zik - Zipper
Expressions:

Gumaje mukko koria - Short sleeves shirt
Gumaje mukko kurua - Long sleeves shirt
Wando dudukena - I have pants made
Yadi jallabia ye maki material - I'm looking for a boubou's material
Ua ngalssane - Take my measurements
Arre, nia ngallaki measurements - Come, I'm going to take your measurements
Jene sar sarra raako - I'd like a stripped cloth
Mukko gumaje ni ye grde - Reduce the sleeves of my shirt
Canja wandoni ye yirgay - Enlarge the waist of my pants
Rob kuruwu cirao - She wants a long gown
Jene ada ngla - This cloth is nice
Bari walle back - Come back tomorrow (litt. come back)
Zawro kura - It's too big
Zawro gana - It's too tight

Expressing one's satisfaction and dissatisfaction:

Canduna - It's pretty
Zauro shawaa - It's very pleasing
Zauro dudo nonumba - You know how to sew very well
Kidanum nglaro dimba - You did your job very well
Ngo wurinum - Here is your money
Sawaniro wulliki issi here. - I will tell my friend to come here.
Dudo nglia nonummi - You don't know how to sew.
Battani banna numa - You have wasted my material
Awiro adea cidum - Why did you do this?
Wurini she - Give me back my money
Canduni - It's not beautiful
Gadero gumajeni dudimba wo - You will not sew my shirt again
Gadero nanumro issikiwa wo place again - I will not come back to your
Grammar

Object pronouns:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Kanuri</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ME</td>
<td>Ua</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YOU</td>
<td>Nia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Her</td>
<td>Tia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Us</td>
<td>Andia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You</td>
<td>Nandia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Them</td>
<td>Tandia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ua(me); Nia (you); Tia(him/her) Andia (us); Nandia(you); Tandia(they)

They are formed by adding "a" to the subject pronouns.

Example: John andia maji. John is looking for us.
"a" is also used as a coordinating conjunction equivalent to the English "with" (generally to relate an adjective) to the noun it describes.

Example: Gumaje mukko kurua --- A shirt with long sleeves
            Wondo riwu kuraa  --- trousers with a large pocket

Conjugation

Present: (Dudo = to sew or to have a garment made)

Dudo
Duduki --- I sew
Dudemi ---- You sew
Cuduri----- He/She sews
Dudiye ---- We sew
Dudwi ---- You sew
Caduri ---- They sew

Ngaldu To take measurements

Present tense:  Past tense

Ngalleki--- I take measures  Ngalkna ------ I took measures
Ngalemni --- You take measures  Ngalemba ---- You took measures
Ngalji ---He/she takes measures  Ngaljena ---- He/she took measures
Ngalliyé --- We take measures  
Ngalliyena--- We took
Ngalluwu --- You take measures  
Ngalluwa --- You took
Ngalzeey ---They take measures  
Ngalzana ---- They took

Imperative  (See index for details)

Ngalsene ! Take my measures !
Ngallé ! Measure (it)
Dude ! Sew (it)!
Walle ! return !(come back)

Exercises :

N° 1 : Use the following words to fill in the blanks : Yiwukie, wandoni, grdo, kalwu, arow, jolijoie, ngalji, kajimo, sarsarra, maasu :

1- ............................. dudo raako.
2- Abdou ...................... luji
4- Batta kime kassu nan .............
3- Buzuwa ..................... Carayi
5- Kalwu adu kime, bul, culum : kalwu adi ...........
6- Kekema tia ......................
7- Gariwa, jallabiawa ...................... kiaaria ye
8- Alam Amerik ye..................... ....
9- Kerema batta kamdu cirayi; .................. maji.

N° 2 : Translate the following paragraph into kanuri :

Tom wanted to have a shirt made. He bought the materiel for the shirt in the market. The material was multicolor. He went to the tailor’s workshop. The tailor took his measurement. The tailor would finish the shirt in one day. Tom didn’t have much money for new pants.

N° 3 : A tailor didn’t sew your shirt well. Use a few expressions to show your dissatisfaction.
Proverb:
Kajimo tima fska konguwa ye /clothes save the honor of a man.

At the tailor:

X-culture:
- Avoid wearing tight clothes, that reveal contours of you body or clothes that are too transparent or too short.
- Make a difference between clothes worn in town and those worn in a village.
- Men and women should not walk around in short clothing in a village.
- Tailors don't respect the given appointments. Don't pay entirely the tailor before he's completed the work.
THEME IV

MEALS
Vocabulary

Biskit  Biscuits
Bri  Food
Buni  Fish
Burodi  Bread
Cam  Milk
Cire  Meat in broach
Da  Meat
Danjali  Sweat potato
Duwaro  Quickly
Duwaro de  Do quickly
Duwaro are  come quickly
Fura/Tigra  Millet porridge
Fula(nkduau)  Oil(any oily substance)
Kafe  Coffee
Kalu  Sauce/leaves
Kenuwal  Live coals
Kange  Fume/smoke
Kaisu  Fat
Lemu hari  lemonade
Makaroni  macaroni
Masana/kalaji  Meal
Ngajli  Millet couscous
Shai  Tea
Shinkafa  Rice
Tapioka  Tapioca
Tlaala  Paste (millet or sorghum)/soft
Wardu  To grill (barbecue)
Yaour  Yogurt

Vegetables and Sauce ingredients Vocabulary

Anana  Ananas
Ayaba  Bananas
Bulu  Sauce of powdered leaves (like okru)
Da  Meat
Dawdawa  Sort of local aroma
Gurji  Cucumber
Gwalo  Okra
Kajewu  Melequet pepper
Karasu  Sauce of hibiscus
Karasu  Hibiscus leaves
Kare Kalu  Sauce ingredients
Karoti  Carrot
Kolji  Peanut
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ingredient</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kulikuli</td>
<td>Dried peanut butter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuwwo</td>
<td>Baobab leaves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawasar</td>
<td>Onion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manda</td>
<td>Salt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mangro</td>
<td>Mango</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rommaji</td>
<td>Maggi Cube (aroma)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ngalo</td>
<td>Beans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Njita</td>
<td>Ht pepper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salat</td>
<td>Letuce/salad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sawudu/Kabewa</td>
<td>Pumpkin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shu</td>
<td>Cabbage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tafarnua</td>
<td>Garlic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tattasi</td>
<td>Pepper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tomatun</td>
<td>Tomato</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yaio</td>
<td>Bitter/variety of tomato</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sauce ingredients**

There are generally two types of sauce in Kanuri. Bulu’ that goes with paste and karasu that goes with millet couscous.

**A recipe: How to prepare hibiscus sauce/Kalu karasu.**

**Recipient:** Cooking pot

1. Heat some oil
2. Add some onion - let it be red
3. Add some meat and some pieces of pumpkin.
4. Add some garlic.
5. Put some slices of tomatoes. Heat it and stir it up.
6. Now pour some hibiscus (dry or fresh).
7. Add some pepper and some tinned tomato. Stir up the mixture.
8. Pour some water.
9. Add some potassium
10. Add pounded peanuts and let it boil.
11. If everything is well cooked, add some salt.
12. Put some aroma.
13. Pour cassava flour.

To pass from one step to another, allow the ingredients to simmer. The sauce can be eaten with some rice or millet couscous.
How you can prepare the different sauces:

Bulu = Dried and powdered leaves (of okra or baobab), oil, meat, beans, onion, tomato, salt, maggi cube, melegueta, pepper, dawdawa, pepper.

Kalu karasu = dried or green hibiscus leaves, oil, meat, onion, tomato, salt, maggi cube, melegueta pepper, pumpkin, bit of garri.

A recipe: How to prepare hibiscus sauce (kala karasu):

Vocabulary of kitchen utensils

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ashana</th>
<th>Matches</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cakol</td>
<td>Spoon/fork</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fraduram</td>
<td>Broom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuko</td>
<td>Stove</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fulay</td>
<td>Win - smoking basket</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Godala</td>
<td>Kitchen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jena</td>
<td>Knife</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeni</td>
<td>Ladle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanduwal</td>
<td>Live coal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kannu</td>
<td>Fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karwui</td>
<td>Mixing stick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kange</td>
<td>Fume/Smke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinday</td>
<td>Palm leaves basket</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kulo</td>
<td>Cooking pot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kulwu</td>
<td>Potash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kska</td>
<td>Wood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ksurdhu</td>
<td>To winnow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tame</td>
<td>Sieve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tassa</td>
<td>Bowl/container</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grammar  (See index for details)

List of verbs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bo</th>
<th>To eat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dedu</td>
<td>To cook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fudu</td>
<td>To make a fire (lit. to blow fire)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kardu</td>
<td>To prepare sauce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaweidu</td>
<td>To try</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kldu</td>
<td>To mix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medu</td>
<td>To grind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuttu/guwurudu</td>
<td>To pound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tambo</td>
<td>To taste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virga</td>
<td>To add</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conjugation of the verb 'dedu' (to cook)
Present tense

Dedu         To cook
deki         I cook
Denumi       You cook
Diji         He/she cooks
deniye       we cook
denyi         You cook
dezay         They cook

To Prepare the sauce = 'kardu'

Kardu         To prepare the sauce
Kalu karneki  I prepare the sauce
Kalu karnemi  You prepare the sauce
Kalu karji    He/she prepares the sauce
kalu karniye  We prepare the sauce
Kalu karnuwi  You prepare the sauce
kalu kartzay  They prepare the sauce

Imperative  Dene (singular, denowo (plural.)

Expressions

Bri maki                  - I'm looking for food.
Manda a tatasia yiwuki    - I'll buy some salt and some pepper.
Cinkara a ngalo a deji    - She prepares rice and beans.
Lemu hari cai             - He drinks some lemonade.
Bri fula a                - food with butter.
Burodi a shai a yiwe     - Buy some bread and tea.
Kanduwal mane da warniye  - look for live coals, we are going
to
Buni gursu findi a raako  - grill some meat.
Kannu fune                - I want a 100 F fish.
Kannu funiki              - Start the fire
Bringaji karasu'a         - I'm starting the fire
                        - Millet couscous with hibiscus sauce
Tlala bulu ngalo wa       - paste with baobab leaves sauce.

Exercises

Exercise N° 1

Imagine this situation : you are at your post. One day you
feel like having millet couscous and hibiscus sauce for dinner.
Write down the instructions you may give to your house boy for
the ingredients.
Exercise N° 2

Translate these sentences into English:

1 - Kann. maki, bri deki
2 - Buni kassu nin bawo
3 - Shinkafa Niger ye majay
4 - kalu da Kuttu
5 - Duwa ro dene
6 - Kare kalu nde ceruna
7 - Ngaji karasua bo raako
8 - Kulum kafe cai
9 - Masana jawui
10 - Tasa gana yiwe.

Exercise N° 3

Ask questions on the underlined parts:

Ex: Kalu karji

Question: Awi karji ? ----> Answer: Kalu karji

A. Bri deji
B. Kerekalu maniye
C. Bika kassoro laniko
D. Kafa cirayi
E. Musa shinkafa ciraana
F. Saa nasana ye cidina. Alia musa a masana jawui.
G. Fati ciro gimnju nin bri jui.

X - CULTURE

- Food is always shared even with unexpected visitors.
- Never sniff food.
- Never eat food with your left hand.
- Never say or show that food you are served tastes bad.

PROVERB

Bri boma nodiwawo say kalu osiyya.
The best food eater will not be known until the sauce is finished.
THEME VII

DIRECTIONS

Yala (N)

Fude (W) <-> Adinam (E)

Anum (S)

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COMPETENCY VIII
DIRECTIONS

Vocabulary:

Adinam  East
Anum    South
Cidia   Under
Ciro    inside
dewuram cross-road
Fledu   to show
Fi      Which
Fu      front/ahead
Fu cik  straigh/ahead
Fude / fuze West
ga    to follow
Gurwo   hangar
jado    to take / to lead
jawal   road / street / path
Juwuu   Garden
Karun   Near
Katte   between
Kaw     rocky hill
Kawdi   shade
Kla     over / on
Klo     farm
Kaboram right
Kodu    to surpass / go beyond
Krila   sandy hill
Kro     to see
Kuris / kujera chair
Kuru    far
Lolol   hospital / dispensary
Mashidi school
Na     mosque
Naara  place
Nato    where
Naadu   over there
Ngawo   here
Ngor    back
Tabl    ravine
Tasha    table
taxi - brousse station
wayla  left
Yala    North

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EXPRESSIONS

Jawal fi likitadi ro cazi?
Jawal kmboro num ye gay
Likitadi du fu mashidi nin

- Which road leads to the hospital?
- Follow your right hand road.
- The hospital is in front of the mosque.
- If you past the school take the road to the north.
- The paper is on the table
- The sandals are under the bed.
- Where is the boy?
- The boy is on the tree.
- Show me the way to the market (please).
- It’s nearby.
- Is your farm far?
- My farm is nearby.
- Go straight ahead.
- Is it far?
- It is not far.

Yala ye da gone
Kakadu da kla tabl nin
Suno du cidia dgl nin
Naranin tada du?
Tada da kla kasnalin
Jawal kassu ye uro flene

Karun
Klonum kuru’a?
Kloni karun.
Funum cik gay
Kuru’a
Kuruuni

Grammar (See index for details)

"a" added to the conjugated form of the verb introduces the conditional:

ex.: raemia : if you like.
Issia : if he comes.

Lokol du konumia jawal yala ye da gone - if you go past the school, take the road on the north.

CONJUGATION

Ga = to follow

Present

Gaki = : follow
Gami = You follow
Jigay = He/She follows
Gaye = We follow
Gawi = You follow
Jagay = They follow

Past

Gakna = I followed
Gama = You followed
Jigan = He followed
Gayena = We followed
Gawua = You followed
Jagan = They followed

IMPERATIVE:
Gay = follow (sing)
Gaywo = follow (pl)

Jawal fi num ye gay : follow the road in front of you.
EXERCISES.

No 1: In this exercise you have to give the appropriate answers to the following questions using these words: funum, kboram, kuru, karun, kla, ciro, jawal, cidia, katte, mashidi, likitadi.

a - Lokol du nara ni?
b - Nara nin salla cadi?
c - Jawal fi gaki likitadi ro leki?
d - Fado num kuru’a?
e - Mukko fi a bri bumi?
f - Gashi num nara nin?
g - Timi num nara nin?
h - Nara nin kra dimi?
i - Nara nin tumatun a karoti a caladi?
j - Jawal nara ye manumi?

No 2. Construct a simple plan of the site indicating the four cardinal points. Then underneath indicate, the infirmary, the language office, and the buvette in relation to the refectoire. Then explain your plan in class.

No 3. Correct these statements, and tell where these cities are located in relation to others you know. Then read your sentences aloud in class.

ex.: France ciro Afrik nin – A’a France ciro Europ nin.
     or: A’a France ciro Afrik ni ini.

a - syracuse ciro colorado nin.
b - Buffalo karun San Francisco nin.
c - Alabama katte Oregon wa California wa nin.
d - Katte Texas wa Mexiko wa kuro.
e - Kanada anum lan.
* ini = is not.

No 4. Ask questions on the underlined words.

1. Likitadi nin karun fandumi.
2. Mashidi ro leyeko.
3. Makka adinam nin krga.
4. Kakadu du kla kuri s nin.
5. Klenju kuru nin.

CROSS-CULTURE

- People usually don’t point to a direction with one finger.
- People are always very willing to help you find your way.

Proverb
- Kan koroma di faciwawo — whoever asks never gets lost.
THEME VIII

TRAVELLING
COMPETENCY No IX: TRAVEL

Vocabulary

- Blawuro
- Ala klewa
- Bannadu
- Cidu
- Dadadu
- Dadu
- Dokin karfe
- Fando
- Farmaso
- Fattu
- Frr
- Gattu/Kridu
- Gawo
- Guredu
- Jibtu
- Jirgi cidiye
- Jirgi sameye
- Kar
- Kare
- Karen mota
- Karimo
- Jawu
- Koro
- Krma
- Ku
- Mota
- Motoma
- Ninutu
- Sarkin tasha
- To
- Tudu
- Yassa

- Travel (trip)
- Goodbye (farewell)
- To break down (also to spoil/to damage)
- To leave (also to stand up)
- To walk around
- To stop
- Bicycle
- To find
- Leave/vacation
- To lose
- Horse
- To drive
- To enter
- To wait for
- To get down (may mean to arrive)
- Train
- Plane
- Bus
- Luggage
- Driver’s aid or apprentice
- Camel
- 24 hour-day (use in counting days)
- Donkey
- Now
- Today
- Car
- Driver or car owner
- To stare
- Taxi-brousse station supervisor
- So (O.K.)
- To fasten
- To repair/to clean (a field)
EXPRESSİONS

- Klewan lene
- Klewan walle
- Fado leane
- Fanjay
- Klewan jimowo
- Mota Goure’ye maki
- Mota bawo
- Gana dane
- Sawi mata di ciji ?
- Krma ma
- Mota du banajina
- Sawi mata du cassay ?
- Nawu yiki Goure’ro ?
- Mota du cimbrini
- Mota du cimbrina
- Gana smettene naniki
- Karea num guwu, biyane
- Karea ni gla tune
- Karea ni facana
- Naran nin mota fandiki ?
- Mota gure niki
- Ua gurenowo
- Mota dajina
- Kara nin daji
- Si nin leji
- Kla frr nin lejay
- Kla koro nin issi
- Have a safe trip
- Have a safe trip back
- Greet your folk
- They will hear (the greetings)
- May you get to your destination safely
- I’m looking for a car to Goure
- There is no car
- Hang on a minute (litt: wait a little)
- When will the car leave ?
- In a minute (litt : right now)
- The car is broken down.
- When will they repair the car ?
- How much will I give to Goure ?
- The car is not full
- The car is full
- Please make room for me (litt : Push a bit I’m going to sit)
- You have too much luggages, pay for them
- Fasten property my luggage (please)
- My luggages are lost
- Where will I find a car ?
- I’m waiting for the car
- Wait for me
- The car has stopped
- He/she/it stops in the bush
- He goes on foot
- They go on horse back
- He comes on donkey

TEXT


COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. Naro Ahmadu leji ?
2. Awiro tasharo leji ?
3. Awi am cadì tasha nin ?
4. Ciro awi nin Ahmadu blanjaro leyeno farmaso kojina du ?
5. Wundu kani ciro mota duro cako ?
6. Awiro kawu yindi cada kla jawalnin ?
Grammar
(See index for details)

Use of : LAA + VERB + LAA YE + VERB.

Laa = Some
Laa ye = Others

Ex : Laa beke cadi, laa ye aya cadi (Beke=dance - Aya=song)
Some are dancing, others are singing.

* Laa lokolw, laa ye kidawu
Some are students, others are workers.

"Ye" could have sometimes the meaning of 'also'

Ex : Am guwu ye mejana - There are also a lot of people.

CONJUGATION

Imperative

Padu = to stop
Dane -------> Stop (sing)
Danowo -------> Stop (plural)
Daniyow -------> Let's stop

Leadu = To greet
Leane -------> Greet (sing)
Leanowo -------> greet (plural)

Cidu = To get up (to leave)
Cine -------> Get up (sing)
Cinowo -------> Get up (plural)
Ciniyow -------> Let's get up

Present (future)

Ciniki I leave/I get up
Cinimi You leave
ciji He/She leaves
Ciniye We leave
Cinuwi You leave
Cijay They leave

Past

Cinikna I left/Got up
Cinima You left
Cijina He/She left
Ciniyena We left
Cinuwa You left
Cijana They left
EXERCISES

No 1: Use the list of expressions to create a dialogue between you and a driver in which you will ask:

- Whether there is a car to Niamey, when it leaves,
- The cost,
- Add possible answers of the driver (asking for luggage fare).

No 2: Give the possible questions to these negative answers:

a) Goure ro ini leekl.
b) Karea ni Guwu ini.
c) Mota ci ji wawo
d) Na bawo.
e) Ku leni ki wawo.
f) A’a. Am laa leysa, laaye issay.
g) Biyaniki wawo.
h) Krma ini ci ji.
i) Motama du isseni.
j) Kamu du le ji wawo.

No 3: Translate these sentences into Kanuri.

a) I came from America.
b) I took a train from Boston to Philadelphia.
c) I took a plane in New York.
d) A car took me to Hamdallaye.
e) It took me three days to come here.
f) The trip is very expensive.
g) I had few luggage.
h) I go home on donkey.

PROVERB

Kashia sowa a di fadon gone duwom blawuro lene.
Take provisions and companions from home before setting off.
CROSS-CULTURE

- "Tasha", the "taxi de brousse" station, is the place where honesty is unknown, a place where all illegal traffickings occur. (So watch out).

- Once in a taxi-brousse your best allies are your fellow passengers. (Drivers can also be helpful).

- Unscheduled stops and all kind of delays are common occurences with "taxi de brousse".

- In big cities "tasha" fares are fixed, otherwise, you have to bargain. They may charge extra fee for large luggage.

- There are people whose job is to help passengers put their luggage up the car's roof. They charge a small amount for this service (Bargain).
THEME IX

DAILY ACTIVITIES
## Vocabulary

- **Agogo/Montr**
- **Bare**
- **Bari**
- **Barimina**
- **Bawo**
- **Bika**
- **Bikando/Bikanzo**
- **Bune**
- **Bunejia**
- **Cidu**
- **Daze/Dade**
- **Dwone/Kawu**
- **Fazar**
- **Gsu/Badidu**
- **Kajiri**
- **Kajirjia**
- **Kawu**
- **Kausu**
- **Ku**
- **Kmune**
- **Knagal**
- **Kntau/Kndau**
- **Kowason**
- **Kumbal**
- **Kwata**
- **Mawu**
- **Mina**
- **Minti**
- **Munde**
- **Nado**
- **Sa**
- **Reda/Reza**
- **Sawi ?**
- **Suwa**
- **Shiwolo**
- **Tado**
- **Tutu**
- **Waare**
- **Wajia**
- **Yaye**

- **A watch**
- **Cultivate (farming)**
- **Tomorrow**
- **Next year**
- **Minus**
- **Yesterday**
- **The day before yesterday**
- **Night**
- **When night comes**
- **To wake up**
- **Early**
- **Before**
- **At day break**
- **To start**
- **Afternoon**
- **When afternoon comes**
- **Day (used to count days) e.g Kawu indi = 2 days**
- **Heat/day light**
- **Today**
- **This (current) year**
- **Sun**
- **Not yet**
- **Moon**
- **Quarter**
- **Week**
- **Next year**
- **Minute**
- **Last year**
- **To sow**
- **Time/ Hour**
- **Half**
- **At what time ?**
- **In the morning**
- **Star**
- **To meet**
- **Pounding millet**
- **The day after tomorrow**
- **When morning comes**
- **Even if/No matter**
- Yim - Day of the week (e.g Yim ladu’a on Sunday
- Yodu - Possibility
- Yimbi - Which day?
- Yoji - It’s possible
- Yojià - Is it possible?
- Yojiwà - It is not possible
- Yojia - If it is possible

**Expressions**

- Sa mawu Krma ? - What time is it now?
- Krma sa uwu. - It’s five o’clock now.
- Sa uwu minti uwua. - It’s five minutes after five
- Sa arakku kwataa. - It’s a quarter past six
- Sa mewun indin redaa - It’s half past twelve
- Sa mewun minti fyakkaa. - It’s 10:30

From the half hour on to the next full hour, the time may be expressed by subtracting from the next full hour by using the negative predicate of existence—‘bawo’.(There is/are not). "Ro" may follow the hour.

**Ex:**

- Sa uwuro minti findi bawo. - It is 20 minutes to 5:00
- Sa indiro kwata bawo - It is a quarter to 2:00
- Sa wusku ro minti mewu tuluri bawo - It is fourteen minutes to eight.

**Activities**

- Awi dimi ku ? - What are you doing today?
- Awima dikiwàwo - I have nothing to do.
- Sawi tadiye ? - When will we meet?
- Sa yindi rezaa tadiyiwo - Let’s meet at 2:30
- Yimbi waali ? - Which day is he/she returning?
- Kida diki. - I’m working.
- Ciaki - I am weaving
- Biahwùc diki - I am travelling
- Lumana sini’ ; yadiki - I am taking the animals to the pasture

**Days, time and making an appointment**

**Seven days of the week**

- Litinin - Monday
- Talawu - Tuesday
- Larawa - Wednesday
- Lamiwu - Thursday
- Junu - Friday
- Subdu - Saturday
- Ladu - Sunday

We add "a" to the name of the day to mean "on" as in: On tuedays. talawna
EXPRESSIONS

- Sawi issimi ?
- Bari issiki
- Sa nalu nu issimi ?
- Sawi kadin ?
- Bikando kadoke

- Bari sa mewu nin ari
- Kajirja issay

- Wajia cinluye
- Mota di suwa sa wusku nin ciy.

- Bunejia issikiwawo.
- Ladua kidaro lenimia ?

- A’a litinin a leki
- Talawua tadiyio.

SEASONS AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

VOCABULARY

- Be
- Bigla
- Binum
- Nangri

- Spring (Activities : preparation of fields)
- Autumn (Harvest time)
- Winter (Constructing houses, travels, etc)
- Summer (Rain season- People cultivate the land).

EXPRESSIONS

- Kida fi bigljia dimi ?
- Arum kaguki fadore kudiki.
- Nangrijia am bare cadi.
- Naram yaye kazum kri meji.
- Sawi klo num yassami ?
- Sawi bare gsumi?

- Binumjio am guwu fado cadi.
- Nangrijia am arum canadi.
- Bejia zauro kausua.
- Bejia am la’a blywuro cadi.
- Binumjia kakua.

- What kind of job do you do in automne ?
- I cut millet and bring it home.
- In the summer people cultivate
- There is green grass everywhere.
- When will you clear your field ?
- When are you going to start farming?
- In winter many people build houses.
- In summer people sow millet.
- It’s very hot in the spring.
- In spring, some people travel.
- In the winter it is cold.
The use of "jia" : add "jia" to a time period to express an idea of future.

Ex : - Kajirjia kloro leeki   - When afternoon comes, I’ll go to the farm.
     - Biglajia frr yiwuki   - In autumn, I’ll buy a horse.

"Yaye" is used to describe a state or event which will exist no matter what.

Ex : - Klo cizani yaye bare cidi   - Though he doesn’t have a farm he cultivates.
     - Daze yaye kausu di jau   - Though it is early, it is hot.

CONJUGATION

Verb : TADO = TO MEET.

Present (only in plural)                   Past tense
Tadiye   - We meet                     Tadiyena   - We met
Taduwa   - You meet                    Taduwa     - You met
Tadin    - They meet                   Tadena     - They met

The singular mode is unconceivable because you need at least two people for action of meeting.

EXERCISES

No 1 : Answer these questions :

1. Saa nawu nin bonumi ?
2. Saa nawu nin cinumi ?
3. Saa nawu nin kida gsumi ?
4. Yimbi kida dimbawo ?
5. Kawu num na nu Hamdallaye nin ?
6. Sawi blanumro lenumi ?
7. Kida awiye Hamdallaye nin dimi ?
8. Aw i dimi kajirjia ?
9. Bunejia nara lenumi ?
10. Naran nin mangu kojina du dim ?
No 2: Translate these sentences into Kanuri.

1. She prepares food at 5:00 Am.
2. She goes to the farm at 6:00 Am.
3. They cultivate the field from 6:45 to 3:00 Pm.
4. She comes back home at 3:30 Pm.
5. She pounds millet at 5:00 Pm.
6. She goes to the well at 5:45 Pm.
7. She prepares food from 6:30 to 7:30 Pm.
8. They eat dinner from 7:40 to 8:15 Pm.
9. She bathes her son at 8:30 Pm.
10. She goes to bed at 9:00 Pm.

No 3: Construct a dialogue in which you make an appointment with a friend. The friend will ask you when, where and why the meeting is taking place. You will provide answers to his questions.

Proverbs

Ala yano: ‘Cine nia jitambki’.

God said: ‘Stand up and I will help you’.

(Yano = said; Jitambki = I’ll help)

(A saying to encourage people to take initiatives and not wait in for miracles).

Cross-Culture

- For the people of Niger, particularly the villagers, time is not a measurable quantity.

- Because of this, people tend to be several minutes late on fixed appointments or meetings.

- Mostly people use the prayer times - duar (2 Pm); lasser (4:30 Pm), Magrib (7 Pm) and Lesha (after 9 Pm)- when making appointments, plans, etc...

- On the other hand people don’t wait for invitations to pay one another a visit.

- At times, people may inquire even into small details of one’s life considered private in western societies.

- People in villages are early birds.
THEME X

GARDENING
### Vocabulary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baram</td>
<td>Well</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blaa</td>
<td>Hole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bukadi</td>
<td>Bucket</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cidi/katti</td>
<td>Sand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fayda</td>
<td>Utility/usefulness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garaw</td>
<td>Fence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Griyagi/waya</td>
<td>Screen, cyclone fence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jawal</td>
<td>Path</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kajim</td>
<td>Grass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kangale</td>
<td>Millet stalks used for fencing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karawji</td>
<td>Stake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karwi</td>
<td>Jug used to draw water from the well</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kasuni</td>
<td>Seeds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaudi</td>
<td>Shade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kamboy</td>
<td>Easy/light (# leavy)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kere</td>
<td>Seed bed/pot bed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leda</td>
<td>Planting pot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mouri</td>
<td>Fertilizer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ngurwo</td>
<td>Shade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tono</td>
<td>Barrel/oil drum (barbed) wire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waya</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Gardening tools:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arozoir</td>
<td>watering can</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adda</td>
<td>matchet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beo</td>
<td>ax / hatchet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruet</td>
<td>wheel barrow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cira</td>
<td>gravel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dabi</td>
<td>hoe / small hoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dirgi/zirgi</td>
<td>cistern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diga</td>
<td>pick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jena</td>
<td>knife</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Je</td>
<td>rope / string</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kau</td>
<td>rock/rocky hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaskar</td>
<td>rake</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pel
Pompi
Tawida
Tiyo
Reza
shovel
pump
sickle
hose
razor / blade

Gardening activities:

Verbs:
Baredu to cultivate / to hoe
Didu to mix
Fidu to pour
Doro to gather fruit
Galdu to measure
Gardu to fence
Kamdu to cut
Keredu to make plates
Kittuwu to maintain / to take care
Koktu to plant
Kuradu / ridu to grow
Ladu to dig
Nado to sow
Rubtu to bury
Yatto to water

Parts of a tree:
Kska tree

Dilam branches
Fure flowers
gawessi bark
Kalu leaves
Kri green (fruit (not ripe), leaves, etc.)
Si roots

Expressions:

Gardening steps:

1 - Na ngla karun fado ye mane home.
2 - Baram lane na du nin
3 - Na da frane
4 - Kere ne
5 - Mouri fine
6 - Barene
7 - Ingi fine
8 - Blaa lane
9 - Leda kksa ye da kamme
10 - Kska da blaadaro yake/kasuni yake

- look for a good site near
- dig a well there
- clear the site
- make the plates
- pour some fertiliser
- hoe it
- water it
- dig a hole
- cut the planting pot
- put the plant into the hole/put the seeds.
11 - Blaa da rubne - close the hole
12 - Ingí fine - pour water
13 - na da garne - fence the site
14 - kullum yatte - water everyday.

COMMON EXPRESSIONS IN GARDENING:

Bafuna
Bafuni
Cizuna
Cizuni
Awí kongmi ?
Kida du komboýwa ?
Kska koktu
Awí fayda zurwuye ?
Tumatun xonguki
Tumatun doruki
Mangoro bafuni
Karea zurwu ye fayda a
tu
Kolji kan gurjamjíy
Gawuri masarmí duno ci
Mangoro nan lewa roji

(it is) ripe
(it is) not ripe
(it is) enough
(it is) not enough
what do you transplant ?
is the work easy ?
reforestation
what are the advantages of a garden ?
I transplant tomato
I gather tomato fruits.
the mango is not ripe
garden’s products are very useful.
peanuts help put on weight
maize gives energy to the body.
mango keeps one in good health.

Grammar
(See index for details)

Imperative: (singular)

Barene
Dine
Dore
Fine
Galle
Kerene
Kiskene
Konge
Lane
Nade
Rubne
Yatte
hoe it
mix it
gather them
pour it
measure it
make the plates
take care of it / them
transplant it
dig it
sow it
close / shut
water it

Imperative: (plural)

Barenowo
Dinowo
Dorowo
Finowo
cultivate
mix it
gather them
pour it
To make the imperative (plural form), the verb loses its final letter and takes "owo".

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Awi = What (singular)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+ Use of &quot;Awiso&quot; = What plural</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Also use 'awiso awiso' to mean what difference things.'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ex: Awiso awiso dim bika? what are the different things you did yesterday.

EXERCISES

No 1: Give the list of items (in kanuri) needed to start a garden nursery.

No 2: Answer these questions:

a) Awi fayda kolji ye?
b) Awi fayda tumatun ye?
c) Awi fayda lemu ye?
d) Awi fayda pel ye?
e) Awi fayda zirgi ye?
f) Awinin zurwu franumi?
h) Awiso awiso kongam ciro kere num nin?
i) Nara nin ingi yatto ye fandumi?

No 3: Use the expressions section to do this exercise: kawu zurwu dimi awiso awiso manumi?

CROSS-CULTURE

- Men and women are equally involved in gardening.
- Since the 1984 drought gardening has become more common.
- Usually some people consider gardening as having a lesser value than farming.
INDEX
INDEX: GENERAL REMARKS ON THE LANGUAGE.

I - Noun Formation.

A distinctive feature of kanuri is, there is no grammatical gender. Natural gender is expressed either by:

- Using a specific word for each sex (ex: komu = woman; konguwa = man).
- or adding the words (bi = male) and (kurkuri = female) to the general term of the species. (ex: frr bi = stallion; frr kurkuri = mare).

A - suffixes used to form common names.

Suffixes: - : - Ma (sing) - wu (pl)

This suffixes indicate the bearer of a profession and can be used to form adjectives when added to verbs or to certain nouns.

Ex: bare = cultivate; barema = cultivator
zurwu = garden; zurwuma = gardener
klo = farm; kloma = farmer
(Replace the -ma with -wu for the plural form).
Barema---->barewu------>cultivator(s)
Kloma---->klowu------->farmer(s)
Mota = a car; mota ma = driver/ car owner; mptawu= drivers.
Lokol = school; lokolma = student; lokalwu = students.

Suffix: - mi

This suffix implies son of' and is used to form patronymies.

Ex: Umarmi = son of Umar; Jarami = son of Jara.

Suffixes: -ri or -di

-ri is used to imply house of, place of, etc... (indicates an ethnic group or a clan).
-di is used for families or professions.
Ex: Hausari = place of haussa (hausaland or hausa village).
   Fulatari = place of fulata (fulani land or fulani village)
   Kantari = house of kanta (village of the kanta clan).
   Lizandi = place of Liman (village or neighborhood of the
   area's imam.
   Malumdi = place of Malun (village of reknown moslem
   teachers).
   Mamandi = place of Maman (village or neighborhood of the
   family of Maman).
   Aridi = place of Ari (village or neighborhood of the
   family of Ari).

Suffix: -ram

The suffixe -ram implies "daughter of".

Ex: Mairam = princess (mai = king; -ram daughter of)
   It is also used to imply the place of an activity.

Ex: Kidaram = place of work (kida = work)
   Mazuram = place to look for (mazu = to look for)
   Kriram = place of study (kra = study)

B - Prefixe "nan"

It is used to describe a state of being, the state of an action or
abstract nouns, : (roughly as the equivalent of English -ness)

Ex: nan klewa = health (state of being heathy)
   nan duno = strongness (duno = strength)
   nan kura = bigness (kura = big)
   nan kibbu = hardness (kibbu = hard).

C - Plural formation:

Singular words take -a (or -wa) to form the plural.

Ex: Fado / fadoa (house / houses)
    Mota / motaa (car / cars)
   It can invariably be -a or -wa
   An exception to the rule is "kam" (= man) which plural is "am" (= men)

Note 1: The prefix -so is added to a noun to give the idea of
   a collection of items : (the item is one among others
   of different nature . There have to be things of
   different nature.

Ex: Kani so (= one goat among others : animals or things).
    Mota so (a car among other items).
    Fadoa so (houses among other things).
Note 2: The plural of adjectives is formed by repeating the adjective:

Fadoa kura kura = big houses.

II - Sentences:

Word order in Kanuri is subject - object - verb.
Ex.: Ba anju tiro wurici = his father gives him money
      litt : his father him money gives).

Note 1: Unless they want to make very clear what the subject is, generally Kanuri people do not use the nominative pronoun.

Ex.: Ti a baci = he beats her.
     (litt : her beats) to make clear the subject one should say:
     Ti ti a baci = He beats her (litt : He her beats).

Note 2: To further put an emphasis on the subject the suffix ‘ma’ is added to the subject:

Ex.: Baanju ma tiro wuric = it is his father who gives him money.
     Ti ma ti a baci = it is him who beats her.

Uma diko = it is me who did it (making a claim).

Note 3: Kanuri doesn’t have a verb “to be” as such, and its conjugated form (am, are, is) is virtually unknown. Instead a mere juxtaposition of words (noun / adjective) is used:

Ex.: Lokol di kura = the school is big.
    Ti afuno = he is hausa
    Kanyunj ngala = his wife is pretty.

The use of Kawu:

Kawu is used to mean since, until the time, or before.

1 - Since

Kawu Hamdallayero issikena man nara ma lekeni.
Since I came to Hamdallaye I have not gone anywhere.
Kawu kida yeriana man awima diyende.
We have not done anything since we finished our work.

Note: Here "kawu" is used to express past action in connection with an action in the present perfect.
2 - Until the time.

Kawu cinimi ro kakadu adu krane.
Read this book until (the time) you leave.
(lit: Until you leave book this read).

Kawu kidanum yeremi ro fado nin bone. Spend the night in my house until you finish your work.

3 - Before

Kawu issiki ro kidada yere - finish the work before I come back.
Kawu issimi ro kidada yereki wawo. I won't finish the work before you come back.

Note: Here "kawu" is used to talk about a future action.

Indefinite noun phrase and the use of laa

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>laa</th>
<th>sa laa</th>
<th>laadu</th>
<th>laanza</th>
<th>laande</th>
<th>kam laa</th>
<th>am laa</th>
<th>awo laa</th>
<th>na laa</th>
<th>yin laa</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>one, certain one</td>
<td>some times</td>
<td>some</td>
<td>some of it / them</td>
<td>some of us</td>
<td>someone</td>
<td>some people</td>
<td>something</td>
<td>somewhere</td>
<td>one day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IV - List of verbs and conjugation table.

Kanuri verbs fall in two groups when they are conjugated. The difference between these two comes from the endings. Further, the root of the verbs differs from their infinitive forms.

A - Endings of the first group verbs.

- Mi (I)          Ci --- i  (he, she, it)
- mi (you)        Ca --- i  (they)
- ye (we)         Cidi ----- He/She does
- uwi (you)       Cadi ------ They do

Note: The third persons plural and singular affect the root of the verbs in two ways: they take a prefix and an ending; which are:
(These endings apply to the present tense which is also future).
Ex: Verb : kroa; root : rae. (= to like, to love, to want)

raeki (I like) raeye (we like)
raemi (you like) rauwi (you like)
ciraei (he likes) caraei (they like)

Note 2: Exceptions occur with the third persons for the sake of sound in certain verbs:

Ex 1: Verb : koro; root : kori (= to ask)

Koriki (I ask) koriye (we ask)
korimi (you ask) koruwi (you ask)
ciwriri (he asks) cawori (they ask)

(Notice the change of K into W and the removal of final i in the third persons).

Ex 2: Verb : bo; root : bu (= to eat)

buki (I eat) buye (we eat)
bumi (you eat) buwi (you eat)
juui (he eats) jawi (they eat)

Note 3: Ci bu i = Juwi
Ca bu i = Jawi

* Past tense endings of the first group verbs

- Kna (I)
- ma (you)
- yena (we)
- wa (you)

Note: Third persons past tense: Ci -- ena (he, she, it)
Ca -- ena (they)

Ex: kroa = to like. (root = rae)
raekna (I liked) raeyena (we liked)
raema (you liked) raewa (you liked)
ciraina (he liked) caraona they liked

Note 1: The exceptions are the same as in the present tense.
EX 1: koro = to ask. (root : kori)
   Ciworina (he asked)
   Caworana (they asked)

EX 2: bo = to eat (root : bu)
   jiwuna (he ate)
   jawuna (they ate)

B - endings of the second group verbs.
- eki (I) - iye (we)
- emi (you) - uwi (you)
- ci/ji (he) - cay/jay (they)

Note 1: According to the ending of the root of the verb the third persons endings change: when it ends with a it becomes ci (for he), cay (for they), for other endings it is ji (for he) and jay (for they). Roots ending with n drop it in the third persons. After e the third person singular takes only i and gives the sound yi (ei = yi).

EX 1 Verb: godu; root: gon (to take).
   Goniki    Goniye
   Goni mi   Go ni wi
   Goji      Go jay

EX 2: verb jattu; root: jan (to shut)
   Janeki (I shut)   Jani ye (we shut)
   Jan emi (you shut)  Janu wi (you shut)
   Jaci (he shuts)   Jacay (They Shut)

Note 2: With roots ending with a the third person plural ending becomes sayi (as in gao, gae (= to enter, gasayi = they enter).

* Past tense endings of the second group verbs.
- ikna (I) - Nena (we)
- i na (you) - uwa (you)
- cina / jina (he) - cana / jana (they)
EX. 1. Verb: Godu root: Gon (= to take)

- Gonikna (I took)  
- Conima (you took)  
- Gojina (he took)  

- Giniyena (we took)  
- Gonuwa (you took)  
- Gojana (they took)  

EX. 2. Verb: jattu; root: jan (= to shut)

- Janikna (I shut)  
- Janima (you shut)  
- Jacina (he shut)  

- Janiyena (we shut)  
- Januwa (you shut)  
- Jacana (they shut)  

Note: The endings of the verbs in the third persons change in the same pattern as in present tense (see IV B Note 1). With a final a in the root of the verb, the third person singular ending is -na (as in gao, Gae (to enter) which becomes Gaena (he entered); the third person plural ending is then, saena (as in Gao, Gae (to enter) which becomes Gasaena (they entered).

C - The imperative: the conditional

* To form the imperative of all the verbs add e to the root (to make a singular imperative) and owo (to make a plural imperative).

EX. 1. Verb jattu; root: jan = to shut

jane = shut (you; sing)  
janowo = shut (you; plur.)  
Janiyow = let's shut.

* To form the conditional, add a to the present form of the verb.

EX. 1. Verb: krao; root: raa

raeki = I like; raekia (If I like); Ciraei = he likes;

ciraela = If he likes.

Conjugation

The second past tense

Kanuri has two levels of past tense. The first one that we've already dealt with (endings in -kna; -ma; ci--; -na; -yena; -nwa; ca - na) which corresponds roughly to the English present perfect. The second form can be compared to the English simple past and is used to describe precise actions completed in the past. Its conjugation also varies according to the two verb categories.
* First category verbs indings in the second past tense:

- Ko (I); m (you); ci----o (he,etc..); -ye ye (we); -u wo (you); ca----o (they); added to the roots of the verbs.

Ex: Kro (to see); dio (to do); Kro (root = ru).

Ruko (I saw); rum (you saw); ciro (he saw); ruyeye (we saw); ruwo (you saw); caro (they saw). Some do add ‘Kl’ to root, thus: Kiruko (I saw); Kirum (he saw); Ciro (he saw); Kiruye (we saw); Kiruwo (you saw); Caro (they saw).

Dio (root di): Diko (I did); Dim (you did); Cido (he did); Diyeye (we did); Diu wo (you did); Cado (they did) [or Kidiko, etc..].

Exceptions

Ba (to mount); Ta (to have). The difference is with the 3rd persons endings: Bak o, Bam, juwano, Bayeye, Baw o, Jawano, ta (root = ta), Tako, Tam, Cizano, Tayeye, Tawo, Cazano.

* Second category verbs endings in the second past tense:

- Ko (I), -Um/-Kem (you), -Yen (jo)/-Ken/-O(he,etc..), -Yeye (we), Uwo (you), _Yera/Kera/ra (they) added to the root.

Ex: Godu (to pick up/ take), Ledu (to go), Naptu (to sit down).

Godu [Root: Gon] Gonuko (I took), Gonum (you took), Goyen/Gojo (he took), Goyeye (we took), Gonuwo (you took), Goyera (they took).

Ledu [Root: Len] Len ko (I went), Lenum (you went), Leyen/Lejo (he went), Leyeye (we) Lenuwo (you went), Leyera (they went).

Naptu [Root: Nom] Namuko (Isat down); Nap kem (you sat down); Napken (he sat down); Namye ye (we sat down); Napkera (they sat down).

Note: Verbs ending in ‘ptu’, ‘ktu’, ‘t tu’ end in -kem (you); ken (he, etc..), kera (they) in the 2nd past form.

Ex: Raktu = to be able to; root = ran rako (I was able to); raken (you were able to); raken (he was able); raniyeye (we were able to); ranuwo (you were able); rakker a (they were able).
The second past tense form is usually used to ask questions on precise actions completed in the past using the questioning words below.

Nararo = Where
Awiro = Why
Wundo = who
Sawi = When
Fí = Which
Nawu = How much
INDanin = How
Awí = What

**EX:** Nawu tám ? - How much did you have ? (5.e: How much did you actually get and do you possess now ?)

Sawi isso ? When did he arrive ?
Awíreo leyem ? Why did you go ?

**Pronominal conjugation:**

* First category verb pronominal conjugation: these affixes are added to the conjugated form of the verb: I : S(you, he, you, they); We : Sa(you, he, you, they). You (sing.): Nj(I, he, we, they); You(pl.) : Vja(I, he, we, they).

**EX:** Kro; dio; kraô.
Kro (root = ru) = to see.

**Present:** Ruki (I see); Rummi (you see); Cirui (he sees); Ruyé (we see); Ruwí (you see); Carui (they see).

**Pronominal:** Njruki (I see you ); Njruí (he sees you); Njruye (we see you); Njarui (they see you).
Srummi (you see me); Srui (he sees me); Sruwi (you see me); Sarui (they see me); (could be future also).
Dio (root = di) = to do

**Pronominal:** Njdiki (I do it for you); Njidi (he does it for you); Njdiye (we do it for you); Njade (they do it for you).
Sdimmi (you do it for you); Sdi (he do it for you); Sdiwí (you do it for me); Sadi (they do it for me). [could be future also]
Kraó (root:ra) = to like/to love/to need.

**Pronominal:** Njra ki (I like you); Njrayi (he likes you); Njirayiye (we like you); Njarayi (they like you).
Sra mmi (you like me); Srayi (she likes me); Srae uwi (you like me); Sarayi (they like me).
The past pronominal follows the same pattern:

Ex: Njraekna (I have liked you); Sraemma (you have liked me).
* Cf rule for past tense conjugation.

* Second category verb pronominal conjugation is done this way: before the appropriate ending the root of the verbs take these sounds:

I and we : -S-
You (sing/pl.) : -Nj-

Ex: Wuldu = to say / nodu = to know.

Future/present pronominal:

Wuldu (root:wul)

Wulnji (Itell you); Wulnji (he tells you); Wulnjiye (we tell you);
Wulnjay (they tell you); Wulammi (you tell me); Wulsi (he tells me);
Wulsuwi (you tell me); Wulsay (they tell me).

Nodu (root:non) (Either present or future)

Nonjki (I'll know you); Nonji (he'll know you); Nonjiye
(we'll know you); Nonjay (they'll know you);

Nosmi (you'll know me);Nosai (he'll know me); Nosuwi (you'll
know me); Nosay (they'll know me).
The past pronominal follows the same pattern.

Ex: Nodu (root = non) = to know.

Nonjko (I have known you); Nonjina (he has known you);
Nonjiyena (we have known you); Nonjana (they have known
you).

* cf rule for past tense conjugation.

A simple way of pronominal conjugation is using the object pronouns:

Ua (me); Nia (you); Tia (him/her/it); Andia (us); Nandia (you); Tandia
(them).

Ex: Baanja tandia cirayina. (Their father like them).

Kanaa num Ua cara na. (You brothers like me).

Nota: Tenses in kanuri are not quite like the ones in English
for example present and future tenses are the same in
kanuri because they describe unfinished actions (actions
that are to come (future) or in the process of completion
(present).
Ex: Leniki' means either I go (i.e. in the process of going) or I'll go (Some time in the future).
With some verbs such as 'krao' (to like) the first past tense carries more the idea of present than of past.

Ex: 'Njra kna' means 'I have liked you' but the idea behind it, is this: 'I started to like you and I still like you'.

However, with the second past tense, the action is totally completed in the past.

Ex: Fadoro leyen----------------->He went home.
It is also used when trying to be polite and it has thus the English past conditional sense.

Ex: Ingi roeko------------------->I'd like some water
### C - List of the first group of verbs in Kanuri

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Infinitive</th>
<th>Root</th>
<th>3rd person sing. (pres.)</th>
<th>3rd person plur. (pres.)</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ba</td>
<td>ba</td>
<td>juwai</td>
<td>jawai</td>
<td>to mount/climb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bo</td>
<td>bu</td>
<td>juwi</td>
<td>jawi</td>
<td>to eat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cidu</td>
<td>cini</td>
<td>ciji</td>
<td>cijay</td>
<td>to stand up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dio</td>
<td>di</td>
<td>cidi</td>
<td>cadi</td>
<td>to do</td>
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<td>ja</td>
<td>yaa</td>
<td>cay</td>
<td>cassay</td>
<td>to drink</td>
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<td>jasa</td>
<td>yaso</td>
<td>casi</td>
<td>casay</td>
<td>to repair</td>
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<td>jezo</td>
<td>yeji</td>
<td>ceji</td>
<td>cejay</td>
<td>to kill</td>
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<td>jimbre</td>
<td>yimbre</td>
<td>cimbri</td>
<td>cassambri</td>
<td>to fill</td>
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<td>yiwe</td>
<td>ciwi</td>
<td>cawi</td>
<td>to buy</td>
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<tr>
<td>jo</td>
<td>yi</td>
<td>ci</td>
<td>cadi</td>
<td>to give</td>
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<td>jundo</td>
<td>yunde</td>
<td>cundi</td>
<td>caundi</td>
<td>to swallow</td>
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<td>kaso</td>
<td>kasa</td>
<td>cayesi</td>
<td>cayesay</td>
<td>to flee</td>
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<td>koro</td>
<td>kore</td>
<td>ciwori</td>
<td>cawori</td>
<td>to ask</td>
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<td>krao</td>
<td>rae</td>
<td>cirael</td>
<td>carael</td>
<td>to like</td>
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<tr>
<td>kro</td>
<td>ru</td>
<td>ciray</td>
<td>Caray</td>
<td>to see</td>
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<td>lade</td>
<td>ciladi</td>
<td>caladi</td>
<td>to sell</td>
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<td>stambo</td>
<td>stambe</td>
<td>citambi</td>
<td>catambi</td>
<td>to help someone</td>
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<tr>
<td>ta</td>
<td>ta</td>
<td>cizay</td>
<td>cazay</td>
<td>to have</td>
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</table>
## List of second group of verbs

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<tr>
<th>Infinitive</th>
<th>Root</th>
<th>3rd person sing.(pres.)</th>
<th>3rd person plur.(pres.)</th>
<th>Translation</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>baktu</td>
<td>ban</td>
<td>baci</td>
<td>bacay</td>
<td>to hit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>banaan</td>
<td>banaaji</td>
<td>banaajay</td>
<td>to help</td>
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<tr>
<td>captu</td>
<td>capn</td>
<td>capci</td>
<td>capjay</td>
<td>to gather</td>
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<td>dadu</td>
<td>dan</td>
<td>daji</td>
<td>dajay</td>
<td>to stop</td>
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<td>dedu</td>
<td>den</td>
<td>deji</td>
<td>dejay</td>
<td>to cook</td>
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<td>dega</td>
<td>dea</td>
<td>dei</td>
<td>deajay</td>
<td>to dwell</td>
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<td>didu</td>
<td>din</td>
<td>diji</td>
<td>dijay</td>
<td>to mix</td>
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<td>dun</td>
<td>duji</td>
<td>dujay</td>
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<td>fann</td>
<td>fanji</td>
<td>fanjay</td>
<td>to feel/to hear</td>
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<td>farn</td>
<td>farji</td>
<td>farjay</td>
<td>to fly</td>
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<td>to pour</td>
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<td>fun</td>
<td>fuji</td>
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<td>to blow</td>
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<td>ganji</td>
<td>ganjay</td>
<td>to hurry</td>
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<td>gaei</td>
<td>gasay</td>
<td>to enter</td>
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<td>gann</td>
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<td>gacay</td>
<td>to drive</td>
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<td>gon</td>
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<td>gojay</td>
<td>to take</td>
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<td>gremjii</td>
<td>gremjay</td>
<td>to run</td>
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<td>guren</td>
<td>gureji</td>
<td>gurejay</td>
<td>to wait</td>
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<td>jaci</td>
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<td>to shut</td>
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<td>to open</td>
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<td>len</td>
<td>leji</td>
<td>lejay</td>
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<td>napci</td>
<td>napcay</td>
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<td>to start</td>
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<td>non</td>
<td>noji</td>
<td>nojay</td>
<td>to know</td>
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<td>ran</td>
<td>raci</td>
<td>racay</td>
<td>to be able to</td>
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<td>ruwun</td>
<td>ruwui</td>
<td>ruwujay</td>
<td>to write</td>
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<tr>
<td>kodu</td>
<td>kon</td>
<td>koji</td>
<td>kojay</td>
<td>to leave/lift</td>
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<td>tattu</td>
<td>tad</td>
<td>tací</td>
<td>tacay</td>
<td>to climb</td>
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<td>tuman</td>
<td>tumaji</td>
<td>tumajay</td>
<td>to suppose</td>
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<td>tumbalji</td>
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<td>tussi</td>
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<td>to refuse</td>
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<td>wul</td>
<td>wulji</td>
<td>wuljay</td>
<td>to say</td>
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</tbody>
</table>