

JAMINJUNG AND NGALIWURRU TEXTS

APPENDIX

The following five texts were chosen to represent different speakers from both the Ngaliwurru and the Jaminjung dialect, and different genres and topics. Most of the topics – the traditional healing methods described in Texts II and III, the historical account presented in Text IV, and the myth narrated in Text V – are of cultural or historical significance. References to the texts are made throughout the thesis, especially in Chs. 2 and 5, to supplement illustrative examples. The reference is by Text and line number, separated by a slash. For example, I/3 should be read as ‘line 3 of Text I’.

Text I, ‘Parachute Jumping’, is a comment, co-constructed by three Jaminjung speakers, on an ongoing situation. It was chosen because it illustrates the contrasts between the use of locomotion verbs and the verb of change of locative relation, *-irdba* ‘FALL’. Text II, ‘Healing a broken leg’, is taken from a narrative containing elements of a procedural text, in Jaminjung. Text III is a narrative, also in Jaminjung, about the experience of being bitten by a centipede. Both Text II and Text III also illustrate the degree of code-switching into Kriol often found in spontaneous texts. Texts IV and V are in Ngaliwurru. Text IV is a historical narrative, an account of a massacre that was committed on a group Jaminjung and Ngaliwurru people at the beginning of this century. Text V is a mythical narrative, a version of the ‘Emu and Brolga’ myth which is widespread throughout Australia.

All asides or interruptions are either included or indicated in the transcripts. Questions or prompts by myself are indicated with the initials ESB.

I Parachute Jumping

Dialect: Jaminjung

Speakers: Daisy Bitting, Mignonette Jamin, Doris Pannikin

Recorded 30/05/96, Diversion Dam, near Kununurra

This short conversation - prompted by me - was recorded while observing a group of parachute jumpers.

(...) (DP and MJ notice parachute jumpers, and MJ counts eight people in the air)

1. ESB: how do you say for that, lubayi mangurn-
 many white.person

2. DBit: dibadibard-
 RDP:jump
 ‘Jumping-’

3. DP: [lubayi mangurn-]
 many white.person

4. MJ: [lubayi mangurn burr-angga:]
 many white.person 3pl-GO.PRS
 ‘Many white men are going (down).’

5. DBit: dibadibard burr-irda-m \
 RDP:jump 3pl-FALL-PRS
 ‘(They are) jumping down.’

6. DP: dibadibard-
 RDP:jump
 ‘Jumping-’

7. MJ: dibadibard=biyang \
 RDP:jump=NOW

8. thamirri thanyungbari dibbard ga-ngga \
 below another jump 3pl-GO.PRS
 ‘Jumping now. Further down another one is jumping.’

9. DBit: other one there-

10. MJ: jungulug=biyang \
 one=NOW

11. a:wu, jungulug ngiyinthu thang^ga!
 no one PROX above
 ‘One now. No, one is here above!’

12. ESB: a:!

13. MJ: jirrama=biyang \
 two=NOW
 ‘Two now.’

14. DP: yuwarnany ganiny-ngarna-m <x thamirri x>
throw? 3sg:3du-GIVE-PRS below?
15. dibard buny-angu biya:ng,
jump 3du:3sg-GET/HANDLE.PST NOW
'Someone throws the two down, the two jumped off now'
16. MJ: lubayi-gurna \ dibbard burr-angu..
many-?? jump 3pl:3sg-GET/HANDLE.PST
17. jung- jung- ^jirrama=biyang \
one- one-two=NOW
'Many! (Many) jumped off, one- one- two now'
18. ??: xx dibbard buny-angu=biya:ng,
?? jump 3du:3sg-GET/HANDLE.PST=NOW
jirrama mayi
two person
'The two have jumped off now, two men'
19. MJ: dibbard.. burri-dba-ny,
jump 3pl-FALL-PST
20. dibadibard burr-irdba-ny jawagun \
jump:RDP 3pl-FALL-PST other.lot
21. jirrama=biyang buny-angga \
two=NOW 3du:3sg-GO.PRS
22. thanyungbari=guji biyang ga:-ngga, jid \
other=FIRST NOW 3sg-GO.PRS go.down
'They jumped (down), the others jumped down. Two are now going (down). Another one is already going down now'
- (...) (The speakers realise that the parachutes must be practising for ANZAC day. Brief discussion in Kriol about when ANZAC day is, and why on earth people would decide to do parachute jumping.)
23. ESB: what about if they land.. gulban-gi?
ground-LOC
24. DP: jid burr-irda-m \
go.down 3pl-FALL-PRS
'they get down'

25. DBit: gurdij burr-irda-m xx \
stand 3pl-FALL-PRS ??
'they land ??'
26. ESB: gurdij- [gurdij burr-irda-m gulban-gi?]
27. DP: [gurdij burr-irda-m...] gulban-gi \
stand 3pl-FALL-PRS ground-LOC
'they land on the ground'
28. MJ: <x jidjid thamirri na x>,
RDP:go.down below NOW
29. finish \
finished
30. thanyung- <x nothing x> \
another nothing
'(They are) all down below now (?). That's it. Another one- no.'
31. DP: ng:, ga-rdba-ny na \
no 3pl-FALL-PRS NOW
'No, he got down now'
32. MJ: finish \
finished
'That's it.'

II Healing a broken leg

Speaker: Eileen Roberts

Dialect: Jaminjung

Recorded 31/05/97, Wungunggiwung Site, near Timber Creek

The speaker here proudly describes how she cured her daughter's broken leg with traditional medicine, when the non-Aboriginal doctors had already given up on healing it, and even wanted to amputate it because of the complicated fracture.

1. Nanjirri-wu
<proper.name>-DAT
'To Nanjirr-'

(brief interruption)

2. Nanjirr gani-yu=rnu \
 <proper.name> 3sg:3sg-SAY/DO.PST=3sg.OBL
 ‘He said (to) Nanjirr’

3. “nganthu-rum”, warnanggal-ni gani-yu=rnu,
 2sg-COME.PRS? medicine.man-ERG 3sg:3sg-SAY/DO.PST=3sg.OBL

dokta-ni,
 doctor-ERG
 “‘You come here’ (?), the healer said to her, the doctor did,’

4. “thanthu minyga gurdbu ngunggina bag na-jga-ny,
 DEM what’s.it.called lower.leg 2sg:POSS break 2sg-GO.PST
 “‘That - what’s it called - you broke your lower leg,’

5. yirri-w-arra ngunggu nang buru=wung”
 1pl.excl:3sg-FUT-PUT 2sg.OBL stick return=COTEMP
 ‘we will stick it back together for you.’”

6. ... gani-yu=rnu \
 3sg:3sg-SAY/DO.PST=3sg.OBL
 ‘... he said to her.’

7. “woking, a:, walnginy na-w-ijga=wunthu,
 walking ah walking 2sg-FUT-GO=COND
 “‘(But) if you walk (later),’

8. thanthu=biya thudbung na-w-ijga miri”
 DEM=NOW short 2sg-FUT-GO leg
 ‘you will then walk (with) that leg (being) short(er).’” (i.e. the doctors
 wanted to amputate the leg)

9. “awu”, .. ji=malang=biyang gani-yu,
 no 3sg=GIVEN=NOW 3sg:3sg-SAY/DO.PST
 “‘No!’ she then said, her,’

10. “gurrany fiksim ya-wun-garra=mulu,
 NEG fix:TR IRR-2pl:1sg-PUT=COLL
 “‘You all won’t cure me,’

11. plasta eberitaim gurr-arra-m,
plaster every.time 2pl:3sg-PUT-PRS
'you always (just) put on a plaster.'

12. gujang ngarrgina-ni,
mother 1sg:POSS-ERG
'My mother,'

13. fiksim gan-jibili \
fix:TR 3sg:1sg-FUT:GET/HANDLE
'she will cure me'

14. nga-w-ijga=nu buru,
1sg-FUT-GO=3sg.OBL return
'I will go back to her,'

15. Bulla-bina" \
<place.name>-ALL
'to Bulla.'

16. ga-ruma-ny,
3sg-COME-PST
'She came,'

17. jurnku nga-rra-ny,
hot.ground/anthill 1sg:3sg-PUT-PST
'I put hot ground (from an anthill) on it,'

18. murl nga-rra-ny jurnku-ni \
'roast' 1sg:3sg-PUT-PST hot.ground/anthill-ERG/INSTR
'I treated her with hot ground.'

19. oletaim murl nga-rra-ny \
all.the.time 'roast' 1sg:3sg-PUT-PST
'I treated her with it again and again.'

20. nga-rriga,
1sg:3sg-COOK.PST
'I warmed it (like that),'

21. alibala nga-rriga,
early 1sg:3sg-COOK.PST
'in the morning I warmed it'
22. gabugabu nga-rriga,
afternoon 1sg:3sg-COOK.PST
'in the afternoon I warmed it,'
23. gabugabu alibala nga-rriga,
afternoon early 1sg:3sg-COOK.PST
'in the afternoon and morning I warmed it,'
24. ^alibala=biyang,
early=NOW
'then the (next) morning,'
25. gud ga-jga-ny walnginy na,
rise 3sg-GO.PST walking NOW
'she got up and walked.'
26. eksrei-wu ga-jga-ny dokta gani-yu=rnu,
x-ray-DAT 3sg-GO.PST doctor 3sg:3sg-SAY/DO.PST=3sg.OBL
'She went for an x-ray and the doctor said to her,'
27. "a:, xx na hiilap ngunggu=na +
ah ?? NOW heal.up 2sg.OBL=NOW
+ jarlag ngunggu=na gurdbu,
good 2sg.OBJ=NOW lower.leg
"Ah, it is healed, it is alright now, your leg,'
28. nanggayin-ni fiksim ganarra- ganiny-garra-ny?
who-ERG fix:TR <false.start> 3sg:2sg-PUT-PST
'who cured you?'"
29. "oh, gujang ngarrgina,
oh mother 1sg:POSS
"Oh, my mother'
30. im olden taim, gujang ngarrgina
3sg old time mother 1sg:POSS
'she is traditional, my mother,'

31. im duimap mi, en aim bete na”
 3sg do.up:TR 1sg and I’m better now
 ‘she treated me, and I’m better now’”
32. en imin toking langa im minyga-mij na, Ingglish-mij,
 and 3sg:PST talking at/to 3sg what’s.it.called-COMIT NOW English-COMIT
 ‘and she said to him in, what’s it called now, in English:’
33. “yu kant tek mi
 “‘you can’t take me’
34. yu kant fiksim mi
 ‘you can’t cure me’
35. enibodi kant fiksim mi
 ‘nobody can cure me’
36. ai go bek la Mam” (...)
 ‘I go back to Mum’”

(The texts continues in Kriol, more or less repeating the account just given in Jaminjung.)

III Jalarriny - A Centipede Bite

Dialect: Jaminjung

Speaker: Iza Pretlove

Recorded 12/06/97, Kununurra

Centipedes are feared for their painful bites, and killed whenever encountered. This narrative is an account of how the speaker got bitten by a centipede when digging for a goanna, and of the traditional healing methods applied to soothe the pain of the bite.

ESB: [... jalarriny-ni] (prompting)

1. IP: [jalarriny-ni?]
 centipede-ERG
 ‘a centipede’

2. yawayi, ngilthig barraj yaniny-garra,
yes swallow further IRR:3sg:2sg-PUT
'yes, it might also 'swallow' you'
3. yaniny-ba=wunthu \
IRR:3sg:2sg-BITE=COND
'if it bites you'
4. ngayug ngiya gan-ba=ga,
1sg PROX 3sg:1sg-BITE.PST=YOU.KNOW
'me, I was bitten here'
5. gurrija nga-gba malajagu=gun \
digging 1sg-BE.PST goanna=CONTR
'I was digging for goanna'
6. malajagu gurrija nga-gba, thuny=mang ga-gba \
goanna digging 1sg-BE.PST buried.in.hole=SUBORD 3sg-BE.PST
'I was digging for a goanna, one that was buried in the ground'
7. <xx haj- nga:la xx> biyang nga-yu malajagu,
?? ?? NOW 1sg:3sg-SAY/DO.PST goanna
ani biggej jalarriny bin thuny mijelb \
only biggest centipede PST buried.in.hole self
'I ???? a goanna, but a very big centipede had buried itself in the ground'
8. en that Nawurla ngarrgina gujugu jayiny,
and that <subsection> 1sg:POSS big MoMo/DaCh
'and Nawurla, my big granddaughter,'
9. wuju-wuju-mindij=biyang \
small-RDP-TIME=NOW
'when (she was) really small'
10. garlagarla burr-agba Wirlma=nguji=gun, +
playing 3pl-BE.PST <proper.name>=ETC.=CONTR
+ guruwuny barr-barr burra-ma-nyi thawaya-wu, thet boltri: \
boab smash-RDP 3pl:3sg-HIT-IMPF eating-DAT that bottle.tree
'they were playing, W. and others, they were smashing up boab (nuts) for eating, those bottle tree (nuts)'

11. thawaya-wu barr-barr burra-ma-nyi, \
 eating-DAT smash-RDP 3pl:3sg-HIT-IMPF
 ‘for eating they were smashing them up’
12. ... e::n, ... ngayug=biya nga-jga-ny guyawud,
 and 1sg=NOW 1sg-GO.PST hungry
 ‘... and me, I was hungry,’
13. julag-gu yirra-mila \
 bird-DAT? 1pl.excl:3sg-GET/HANDLE.IMPF
 ‘we were catching birds (??)’
14. nga-jga-ny=biya “a:, malajagu thuny ga-yu, +
 1sg-GO-PST=NOW ah goanna buried.in.hole 3sg-BE.PRS
 + ail go ... gurrija ngaj”..
 I’ll go digging 1sg-FUT:BE
 nga-yu=burrage=burlujarlig=mulu, +
 1sg:3sg-SAY/DO.PST=3pl.OBL=COLL child=COLL
 + ngarrgina jayiny=jirram en Wirlma,
 1sg:POSS MoMo/DaCh=two and <proper.name>
 ngarrgina nawurlu \
 1sg:POSS woman’s.daughter
 ‘I went away then, “ah, a goanna is buried in the ground, I’ll go and dig it
 up”, I told all the children, my two granddaughters and Wirlma, my
 daughter’
15. “go on then!, majani ngiyi=na!”
 maybe PROX=NOW
 ““go on then, maybe it is here!””
16. warranya=biyang nga-gba \
 uncover=NOW 1sg-BE.PST
 ‘I was scratching then,’
17. <x mubayib, x> (yawns)
 dig.out?
 ‘digging (?)’
18. that jalarriny bin wirriny ngarrgu,
 that centipede PST turn 1sg.OBL
 ‘that centipede turned on me,’

19. mam gan-ba=biyang \
hold.with.tight.grip 3sg:1sg-BITE.PST=NOW
'and bit me with a tight grip' (i.e. it didn't let go)
20. <x thambil x> durd nga yirr nga-nthama-ny +
?? hold.one no move.out 1sg:3sg-BRING-PST
+ jurruny-mij-jung \
lower.arm-COMIT=COTEMP
'I picked it up (??), no, I pulled it out together with the hand'
21. diwu' nga-yu bugu:, garngan=binji=wung \
fly/throw 1sg:3sg-SAY/DO.PST JUST blood=ONLY=COTEMP
'I just chucked it away, just bleeding'

ESB: oh, true!?
22. IP: hm, garngan \
hm blood
'hm, (full of) blood'
23. en yu re-.. yu reckon mugurn nga-rdba-ny?
and you you reckon sleep 1sg-FALL-PST
'and do you think I fell asleep?'
24. ngilijja na, dibard-mayan \
cry NOW jump-CONT
'(just) crying, jumping around'
25. wajjim bun-ngangu=murlu jarlig=bulu-ni hatwada-ni:::,
wash 3pl:1sg-GET/HANDLE.PST=COLL child=COLL-ERG hot.water-ERG/INSTR
'they washed me, my children, with hot water,'
26. wik=biya nga-yu \
weak=NOW 1sg:3sg-SAY/DO.PST waburl'ma \
vomit
'I got weak then, vomiting'
27. brom thet jalarriny /
from that centipede
'from the centipede (bite)'

28. “bulany-ni ganiny-ba?”
snake-ERG 3sg:2sg-BITE.PST
“‘did a snake bite you?’”
29. “awu, nganthan=gun diwu nga-yu nguntharlng?”
no what=CONTR fly/throw 1sg:3sg-SAY/DO.PST heavy
“‘no, what is it that I threw away, something heavy’”
30. en burru-yu=rrgu,
and 3pl:3sg-SAY/DO.PST=1sg.OBL
“maitbi jalarriny-ni ganiny-ba”,
maybe centipede-ERG 3sg:2sg-BITE.PST
‘and they said to me, “maybe a centipede bit you”’
31. burr-ijga-ny birdij burr-ina thet jalarriny,
3pl-GO-PST find 3pl:3sg-CHOP.PST DEM centipede
‘they went and found the centipede’
32. jarriny-gi ga-gba \
hole-LOC 3sg-BE.PST
‘it was in the hole’
33. “ah ngiya-ni ganiny-ba!”
ah PROX-ERG 3sg:2sg-BITE.PST
“‘ah, this one bit you’”
34. ning’ burru-ma mo wej bun-giliny-ma-ny=na yuno,
break.off 3pl:3sg-HIT.PST more worse 3pl:1sg-MAKE-PST=NOW you.know
‘they killed it and they made me worse, you know’
35. ngiyawula=ba pein nga-yu ngayug \
PROX:DIR=NOW pain 1sg:3sg-SAY/DO.PST 1sg
‘I was in pain up to here, me’

ESB: oh, true!?
36. IP: yakkarrayib=biyang ngidbud-gi \
hurt=NOW night-LOC
‘suffering at night,’

37. yakkarrayib=mang-gu, warlŋiny, thatsol,
hurt=SUBORD-DAT? walking that's.all
olnait nga-jga-ny \ gamurrwarinyja, no mirdi \
all.night 1sg-GO.PST midnight no sleep
'because of the suffering (?), walking around, nothing else, all night I went
around, in the middle of the night, no sleep'
38. jalig-di.. lukabtaim bun-ngangu ngidbud-gi \
child-ERG look.after:TR 3pl:1sg-GET/HANDLE.PST night-LOC
'the children looked after me at night,'
39. yakkarrayib=bung=gurra +
hurt=COTEMP=HORT?
+ guyug darlb burru-ma=rrgu=rndi:,
fire light.fire 3pl:3sg-HIT.PST=1sg.OBL=SFOC1
'(since?) I was in pain they lit a fire for me,'
40. dag nga-rna=rni \
warm.self 1sg-BURN.PST=SFOC1
'I warmed myself'
(...) (clarification of meaning of *dag*)
41. buyud=biyang jaburr-ni +
sandground=NOW shovel??-ERG/INSTR
+ burr-angu=rrgu=rndi,
3pl:3sg-GET/HANDLE-PST=1sg.OBL=SFOC1
'they got sandground for me with a shovel (??)'
42. buj-mawu buyud \
bush-HABITAT sand
'the bush kind of sand'
43. kill the pain \
'(to) kill the pain'
44. garrb burr-angu=rrgu=rndi buyud +
gather 3pl:3sg-GET/HANDLE-PST=1sg.OBL=SFOC1 sand
+ hotwan borom baya \
hot.one from fire
'they picked up hot sand for me from the fire'

45. putim there la bingga, jurruny \
 put:TR there LOC finger lower.arm
 ‘(and) put it on my hand’

46. that bin meik pein go,
 that PST make pain go
 ‘that made the pain go away’

(...) (brief aside to child)

47. ngiyi-ngunyi burr-arra-ny=arrgu=rndi buyud,
 PROX-ABL 3pl:3sg-PUT.PST?=1sg.OBL=SFOC1 sand
 ‘here they put sand on me’

48. thamurru-yun,
 below-L.ABL
 ‘down here,’

49. maja’ nga-gba=biyang \
 like.that 1sg-BE.PST=NOW
 ‘I stayed like that then,’

50. guyug-di=biyang dag nga-rna,
 fire-ERG/INSTR=NOW warm.self 1sg-BURN.PST
 minyga nga-rna \
 what’s.it.called 1sg-BURN.PST jiwuly \
 cool.down
 ‘I got warmed by the fire, I got warmed what’s it called, (so that the pain)
 ‘cooled’ down’

IV A massacre at Ngayimalang

Dialect: Ngaliwurru

Speaker: Duncan McDonald

Recorded July 1997 at Gilwi (near Timber Creek) by Mark Harvey.
 Transcription by Mark Harvey and myself, glossing mine.

This is the beginning of an account of a massacre occurring at the beginning of this century. Ngaliwurru people had gathered for a ceremony and were singing and dancing, when a group of white people arrived with rifles and started shooting men, women and children. *Ngayimalang* is in the country of which the

speaker is a traditional owner; it is a gorge site on the Ikymbon river north of the Victoria River (Mark Harvey p.c.)

1. Ngayimalang \
<place.name>
'(at) Ngayimalang'
2. Junba-warni burr-agba \
dance.style-MOTIV 3pl-BE.PST
'they were busy with the Junba'
3. ngajija \
dance
'dancing'
4. mangurn ga-jga-ny burrag, guyug-mij \
whitefellow 3sg-GO.PST 3pl.OBL fire-COMIT
'a white man went for them with a rifle'
5. dunggulba ganurru-wardagarra-ny \
knock? 3sg:3pl-FOLLOW-PST
'he followed them shooting (?)'
6. dawu'-mayan ganurru-ma \
shoot-CONT 3sg:3pl-HIT.PST
'he shot them'
7. xba, jarlig .. <x mirndij=biya x> 'marrug ga-gbaburri \
?? child TIME=NOW hidden 3sg-BE.PST 3pl
'when he was a child, he was hiding from them'
8. ga-jga-ny burri yugung marrug ga-rdba-ny \
3sg-GO.PST 3pl run hidden 3sg-FALL-PST
'he ran away from them, and hid'
9. Wardanburru \
<proper.name>
Wardanburru did'
10. that Wally na Wardanburru \
that <proper.name> NOW <proper.name>
'that Wally, Wardanburru

- 11-12. mayi-nyunga \ Aboriginal name \
 person-ORIG
 ‘(that’s his) Aboriginal name’
13. Wardanburru \
 <proper.name>
 Wardanburru
14. jarlig-mirndij \
 child-TIME
 ‘when he was a child’
15. ga-jga-ny burri marrug ga-rdba-ny burri \
 3sg-GO.PST 3pl hidden 3sg-FALL-PST 3pl
 ‘he ran away from them and hid from them’
16. langiny-ni \
 wood-LOC
 ‘behind a tree’
17. ganurr-ijja-ny=ba dunggurlba \
 3sg:3pl-POKE-PST=NOW? knock?
 ‘he shot them then’
18. jawaguny \
 other.group
 ‘the others’
19. jarriny-bina \
 hole-ALL
 ‘in the cave’
20. mangurn-ni \
 whitefellow-ERG
 ‘the white man did’
21. nyul ganurru-ngawu nganyjan-nyunga=gun \
 sulky 3sg:3pl-SEE.PST what-ORIG=CONTR
 ‘he was envious of them, why?!’

22. majani yagbali-nyunga \
 maybe place-ORIG
 ‘maybe because of the country’
23. yagbali-warni majani nyul ganurru-ngawu \
 place-MOTIV maybe sulky 3sg:3pl-SEE.PST
 ‘maybe because of the country he envied them’
24. ani yagbali=gun yirrajgina ^mayi-gina janyju \
 only place=CONTR 1pl.excl:POSS person-POSS DEM
 ‘but it is our country, the Aboriginal people’s, that one’
25. yugung ga-jga-ny burri,
 run 3sg-GO.PST 3pl
 jarlig=marlang marrug ga-rdba-ny \
 child=GIVEN hidden 3sg-FALL-PST
 ‘he ran away from them, the child did and hid’
26. dunggulba jawaguny=biya ganurr-ujja-ny \
 knock? other.group=NOW 3sg:3pl-POKE-PST
 ‘he shot the others’
27. dawu:-mayan walaladbari \
 shoot-CONT RDP:old.man
 ‘shooting the old men’
28. mululurru-mij \
 RDP:old.woman-COMIT
 ‘together with the old women’
29. jarriny-gi \
 hole-LOC
 ‘in the cave’
30. jamurrugu \
 below
 ‘down there (towards the river)’
31. Ngayima^lang
 <place.name>
 ‘(at) Ngayima’lang’

32. burrb ganurr-ujja-ny jawaguny \
 finish 3sg:3pl-POKE.PST other.group \
 ‘he shot the others dead’
33. mangurn-ni \
 whitefellow-ERG \
 ‘the white man did’
34. jarlig=biya marrug ga-rdba-ny burri \
 child=NOW hidden 3sg-FALL-PST 3pl \
 ‘the child then hid from them’
35. Junba-warni burr-agba badadi burru-wardagarra-nyi \
 dance.style-MOTIV 3pl-BE.PST ceremonial.place 3pl:3sg-FOLLOW-IMPF \
 ‘they were busy with the Junba, following the ceremony’
36. Junba \
 dance.style \
 ‘the Junba’
37. ngajija burr-agba walaladbari \
 dance 3pl-BE.PST RDP:old.man \
 ‘the old men were dancing’
38. jambala ^yarrulany \
 some.fellow young.man other.group young.man \
 ‘(and) some young men-- some (were) young men’
39. ngajija burr-inyji \
 dance 3pl-GO.IMPF \
 ‘they were dancing’
40. janyju <x nuwina jarlig.. mirndij=ma ‘ga-gba burri x> \
 DEM 3sg:POSS child TIME=SUBORD 3sg-BE.PST 3pl \
 ‘that one was with them when he was a child (?)’
41. Wardanburru \
 <proper.name> \
 ‘Wardanburru’

42. burr-agba=nu ngajja \
 3pl-BE.PST=3sg.OBL dance
 ‘they were dancing for him’
43. burrb ganurr-ijja-ny jawaguny mayi \
 finish 3sg:3pl-POKE.PST other.group person
 ‘he shot the other people dead’
44. jambala .. mululurru=gayi ganurr-ujja-ny guyug-di \
 some RDP:old.woman=ALSO 3sg:3pl-POKE.PST fire-ERG/INSTR
 ‘some, also women he shot with a rifle’
45. dunggulba ganurra-wardagarra-nyi \
 knock? 3sg:3pl-FOLLOW-IMPF ganurra-ma-nyi \
 3sg:3pl-HIT-IMPF
 ‘he followed them shooting (?), and killed them’
46. halidei=malang gun \
 early.days?=GIVEN CONTR
 ‘in the early days (?)’
47. burrb ganurru-ma mangurn-ni \
 finish 3sg:3pl-HIT.PST whitefellow-ERG
 ‘he killed them, the whitefellow,’
48. mularrij ga-ruma-ny burrag mangurn \
 fierce 3sg-COME-PST 3pl.OBL whitefellow
 ‘he came to them being violent, the whitefellow’
49. guyug-mij \
 fire-COMIT
 ‘with a rifle’

(Text continues after this)

V Emu and Brolga

Dialect: Ngaliwurru

Speaker: Violet Balidi

Recorded 25/05/96, Murranginy/Timber Creek

This is a myth about two totemic ancestral ('dreamtime') women, Emu (*gumurrinji*) and Brolga (*gudarrg*) (cf. the reference to its transmission to the narrator by the elders in lines 37-39). Emu deceives Brolga by hiding her own children, and then persuading Brolga that she should kill all but two of her children, since she, Emu, already has only two. Brolga complies, but when she realises the deceit, fights Emu and breaks her wings. Afterwards, the two go separate ways. The myth explains both the characteristic features of the two birds (the emu does not fly, and the brolga - a crane species - only lays two eggs), and their difference in habitat (savannah for the emu, swamp for the brolga). Various versions of a myth about a fight between Emu and Brolga are found in a large cultural area (cf. e.g. Heath 1980b: 48 Merlan 1994: 247).

1. *gudarrg *
 brolga
 'Brolga'
2. *gudarrg* *bin* *go* *langa im*,
 brolga PST *go* LOC 3sg
 'Brolga went up to her,'
3. *ga-jga-ny* *nu:::* *gudarrg=mala:ng* *ganurr-uga jalig*,
 3sg-GO-PST 3sg.OBL *brolga=GIVEN* 3sg:3pl-TAKE.PST child
 'she went up to her, Brolga, she took her children'
4. ... *en* *thet* *gumurrinji*,
 and DEM *emu*
 '... and Emu'
5. *gibiman* *olabat*,
 keep:? 3pl
 'was keeping them (i.e. hiding hers)'
6. *ganurru-muwa* *jalig *
 3sg:3pl-HAVE.PST child
 'she kept her children'

7. ingglis-mij xxxxx LLL
English-COMIT ??
'in English ???' (unintelligible metalinguistic comment on speaker's use of Kriol in previous intonation units)
8. jalig ganurru-muwa .. murag-gi \
child 3sg:3pl-HAVE.PST shade-LOC
'she kept her children in the shade'
9. gudarrg=biyang ga-jga-ny nu,
brolga=NOW 3sg-GO-PST 3sg.OBL
'Brolga now went up to her'
10. ... "hey, nami=malang jalig ^bardawurru!"
 INTERJ 2sg=GIVEN child many
'... "hey, you (have) a lot of children!"'
11. ... gumu- .. minyga, gumurrinji bin talk la im \
 <false.start> what's.it.called emu PST talk to 3sg
'Emu said to her'
12. gani-yu=nu gumurrinji \
3sg:3sg-SAY/DO.PST=3sg.OBL emu
'Emu said to her'
13. "ngayug=malang jalig jirrama=biji /
1sg=GIVEN child two=ONLY
"I (have) only two children'
14. ^naburru-mangu jalig \
2sg:FUT:3pl=HIT.PST child
'you should kill your children'
15. jawugun=malang,
other.group=GIVEN
'the others'
16. ngayug=guji jirrama <x ngawunya x>, jalig, jirrama",
1sg=FIRST two 1sg:3du-TAKE.IMPF?? child two
'I already (only) have two children, two''

17. gani-yu=nu, gumurrinji-ni \
 3sg:3sg-SAY/DO.PST=3sg.OBL emu-ERG
 ‘she said to her, Emu did’
18. wal gudarrg-di=biya jalig burrb ‘ganurru-mangu ‘nuwina \
 well brolga-ERG=now child finish 3sg:3pl-HIT.PST 3sg:POSS
 ‘well, Brolga then killed all her children’
19. gudarrg-di ‘ganurru-mangu jalig bu:rrb,
 brolga-ERG 3sg:3pl-HIT.PST child finished
 ‘Brolga killed her children, all of them’
20. buru \
 return
 ‘(and went) back’
21. gumurrinji-ni=biyang bul gan-arrga \ .. gudarrg \
 emu-ERG=NOW emerge 3sg:3sg-APPROACH.PST brolga
 ‘Emu then came up to her, .. (to) Brolga’
22. “yakkarra::yi, jalig bardawurru nganthurru-maya::,
 INTERJ child many 2sg:3pl-HAVE.PRS
 ngarrgina-<x wu x> julamab,
 1sg:POSS-DAT sool:up:TR
 “‘alas, you have a lot of children, and (about?) mine you incited me,’
23. <x julamab x> nganthin-ngarna-ny +
 sool:up:TR? 2sg:1sg-GIVE-PST
 + burrb ‘ngawurru-mangu ngarrgina ‘jalig \
 finish 1sg:3pl-HIT.PST 1sg:POSS child
 ‘you incited me (so that) I killed all my children’”
24. gani-yu=nu \
 3sg:3sg-SAY/DO.PST=3sg.OBL
 ‘she said to her’
25. wirrij na, buny-ma-ja,
 argue now, 3du-HIT-REFL.PST
 ‘(being) furious then, the two fought’

26. wirrij biya buny-ma-ja ^lu:ba \
 argue NOW 3du-HIT-REFL.PST big
 ‘the two fought a big fight’
27. jalig-garni \
 child-MOTIV
 ‘over the children’
28. gudarrg \
 brolga
 ‘the brolga’
29. ... buny-ijga-ny na,
 3du-GO-PST NOW
 ‘... the two went (away) then’
30. “nga-ngga biya ngayug=malang \
 1sg-GO.PRS NOW 1sg=GIVEN
 “‘I’m going (away) now, me!’
31. gurrany yang-iyaj ngunggu” \
 NEG IRR:1sg-BE 2sg.OBL
 ‘I won’t stay for (i.e. with) you”’
32. gani-yu=nu gudarrg \
 3sg:3sg-SAY/DO.PST=3sg.OBL brolga
 ‘she said to her, Brolga’
33. “yawayi, ngayug- [xxx yagbali]
 yes, 1sg ?? place
 “‘yes, I [will go to a different?] place’ (overlapping unintelligible utterance from bystander)
34. yinawula nga-w-ijga=ngarndi” \
 DIST:DIR 1sg-FUT-GO=SFOC2
 ‘I’m going to go over there”’
35. gani-yu=nu \
 3sg:3sg-SAY/DO.PST=3sg.OBL
 ‘she said to her’

36. gumurrinji=xx \
emu
'Emu'
37. thet ol pipel bin xx telimbat mi stori \
DEM old people PST ?? tell:TR 1sg story
'the old people told me (the) story'
38. marlaluga \
RDP:old.man
'the old men,'
39. warladbari, mulurru,
old.man old.woman
'old men, and old women,'
40. <x tharran na x>
that.one? NOW?
'that one (??)'
41. marndaj=biya /
later/alright=NOW
'all right now?'