

## Q27. Learning Yidiny Solution

Circle the incorrect word in each sentence, and write the correct word in the space on the right.

- (a) \* Nyuniny gabay mijil. Nyundu  
(b) \* Ngayu nyuniny jina banggaaldu gundaal. banngaalda  
(c) \* Nganjiiny bama bunyaang wawaal. bamaal  
(d) \* Wanjiirr ngayu minya? nganda  
(e) \* Bamaal waguuja gabaanja janaany. Bama  
(f) \* Nganji ngungu guluguluugu bagaal. gulugulu  
(g) \* Bama ngungu dugur balgaal gabaanja. Bamaal  
(h) \* Nganjiiny ngungu mayi wiwin. Nganjiinda  
(i) \* Nyundu bama bunya mandi bagaal biwuudu. biwuuda  
(j) \* Nyundu jina bagaajinyu biwuudu. Nyuniny  
(k) \* Nganji jaja dunguu wawaal. dungu  
(l) \* Ngayu ngungu bunyaang mandii baraal. bunya

## Comments

- (a) *Nyundu* should be subject of a transitive verb (i.e. a verb with an object) (cf sentence 10)
- (b) *Banggalda* is seen in (8) and (9) meaning 'with an axe'
- (c) *Bamaal* is seen in (2), (12) and (16) as the subject of a transitive verb or part of the subject of a transitive verb in combination with *bunyaang* 'woman'.
- (d) Following the pattern of sentence 3, when the sentence is about possession, the possessor is in its *-nda* form, meaning 'to' or 'with'. Sentence 3 might be paraphrased as 'How much food is with you?' This way of expressing possession is found in quite a few languages.
- (e) Following the pattern of sentence 17, the subject of an intransitive verb (i.e. a verb not taking an object) appears in its shorter form. In (17) 'woman' is *bunya*, not *bunyaang*.
- (f) Combining information from sentences 1, 2, 3 and (h), *mayigu* means 'for food', *mayi* means 'food', *guluguluugu* means 'for black bream', *gulugulu* means 'black bream' when used as the object of a verb.
- (g) Same as (c).
- (h) Following the pattern of sentences 10 and 18, when the verb means 'give' or 'show', the person who is receiving or being shown is in its *-nda* form (cf (d)). Sentence 18 shows *nganjiinda* meaning 'to us'.
- (i) *Biwuuda* is seen in sentence 5 meaning 'with a fishing spear'.
- (j) Follow the pattern of sentence 7 where *nganyanu* is used rather than *ngayu* when the verb ends in *-jinyu*.

- (k) Follow the pattern of *jinaa* in sentences 19 and 20 corresponding to *jina* in sentence 7, or *mandii* in sentence 21 corresponding to *mandi* in sentence 1.
- (l) *Bunya* is seen in sentence 15 as the object of a verb.