

**WATA GA MANAN**  
**(WALTJAN GA GAPU)**  
**MALA YÄKU**

**WINDS AND CLOUDS**  
**WORDLIST**



## **WATA GA MAÑAN MALA YÄKU**

Winds & Clouds (including rain & water) Wordlist

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## **MANAN CLOUDS**

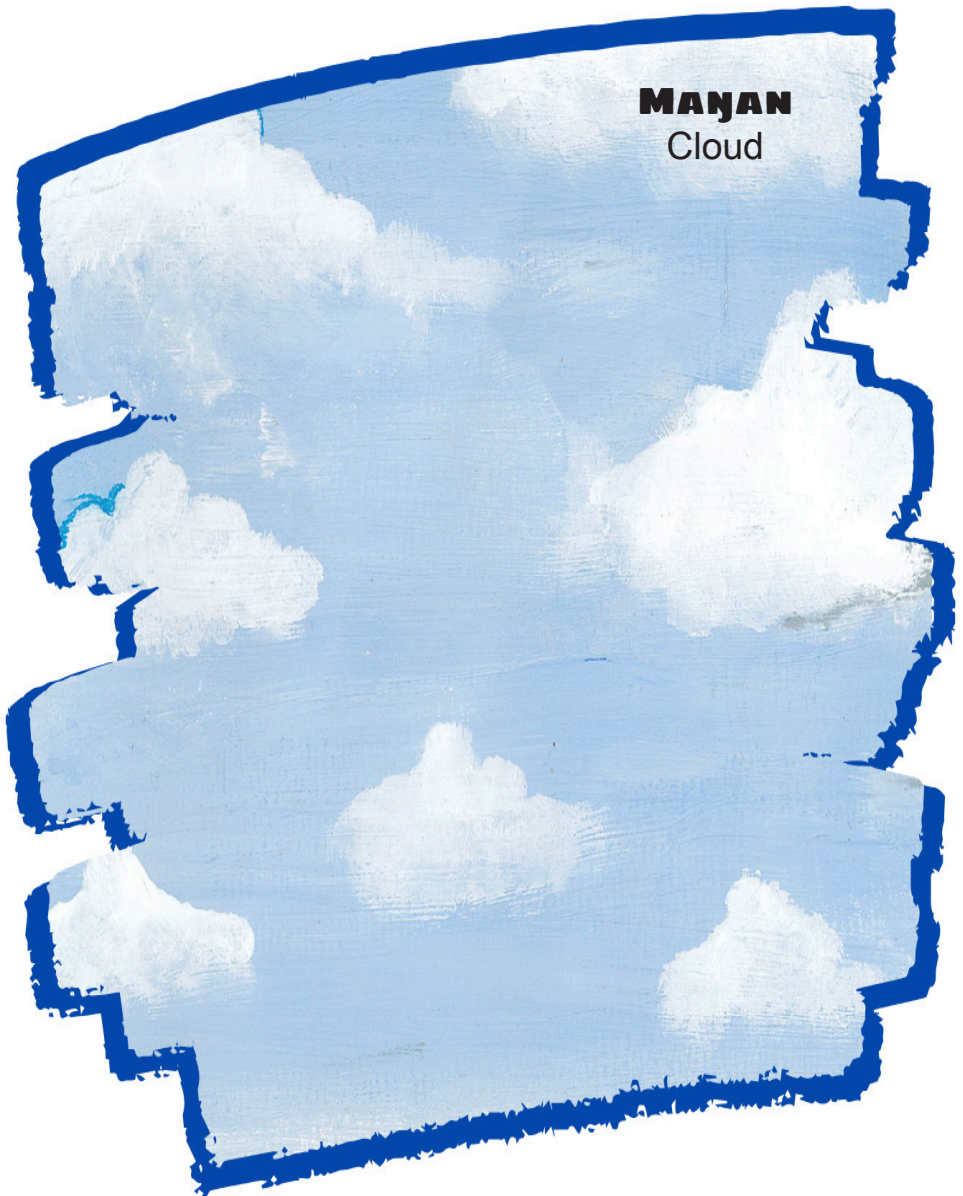
baltha (Yirritja) wutjun	shady mainland cloud, shade tree good time for mangrove worms (Latjin)
banydji (Dhuwa)	evening clouds
ḍanga dhangga	calm when the rain stops, fine
dhäpanga (Yirritja) dhapuwal gumbadika	ocean clouds, water spout good time for mangrove worms (Latjin)
dhäarul (Yirritja)	clouds from the north
dhubuḅ'thun	to splash (as a fish jumping, rain falling)
djarrtjarr (Yirritja)	separated cloud, the clouds broken and separated into layers in a line represented by White flag
djäpana (Yirritja)	clouds, yellow as the sun begins to set
djäri (Yirritja)	rainbow

djekurr (Dhuwa) natiti	clouds from the east
djelirr (Dhuwa)	hailstone(s), thick black clouds
djilirma (Dhuwa) gumurr-waltjanmirr	rainclouds from the east
gäḍany	dew
goṇ-waltjan	rainmaker
guṇupin guṇupun (Yirritja)	black cloud
lakarriny (Dhuwa)	water in a river turned dark after a storm
lumaḷuma (Yirritja)	clouds from the west during sunset

maṇan gäpaḷaḷ gapaḷaḷ waṇupini	cloud general term
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maṇanmirr garrwar cloudy sky

maṇanmiriw garrwar cloudless sky



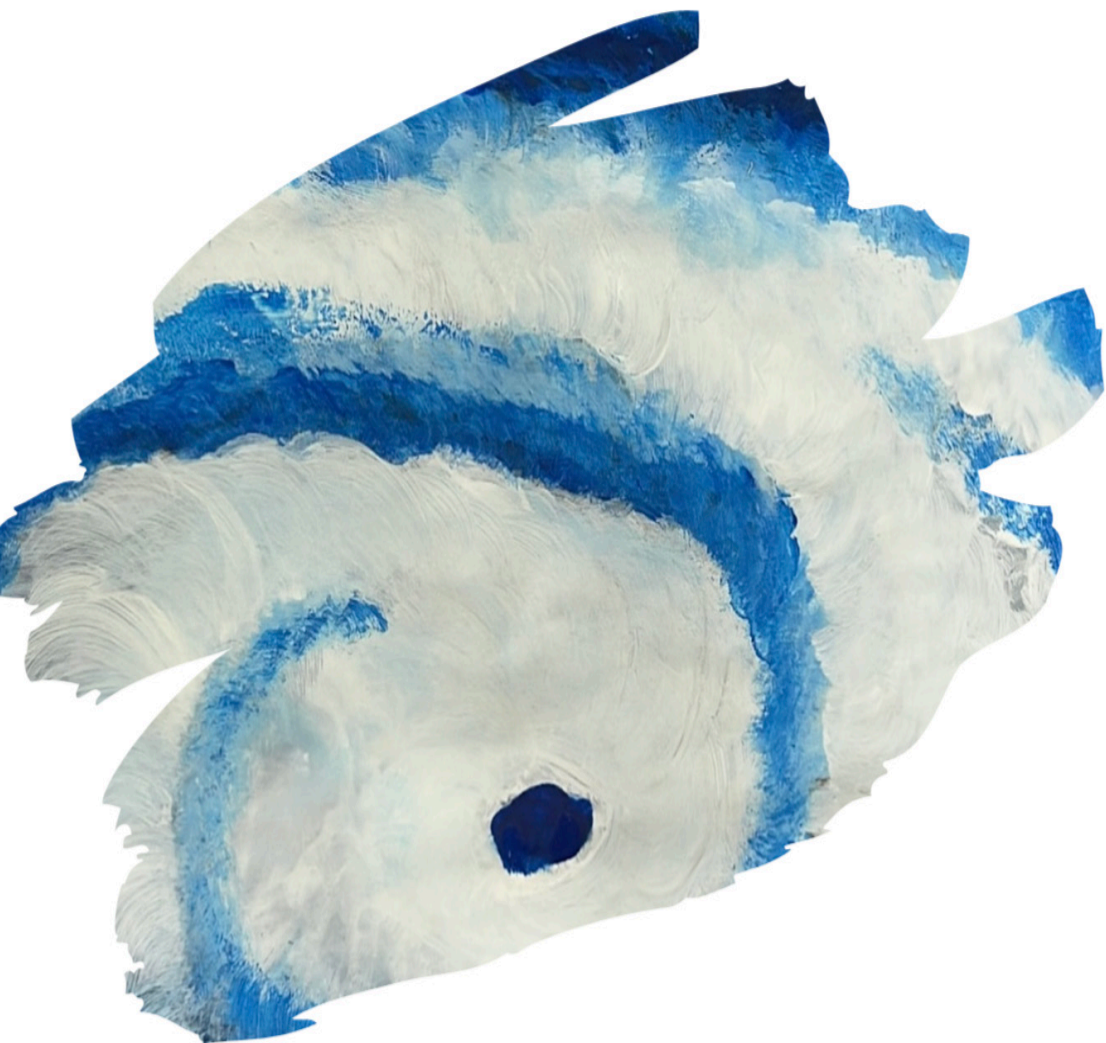
**MAJAN**  
Cloud



mangurr (Yirritja)	clouds that you see when you hear thunder rumbling
maykarran milŋ'thun milŋ'milŋdhun milŋ'thu-milŋ'thun	lightning, more commonly said as a verb rapid flashes
mirrmirrŋa	words spoken by the spirit cloud
muthak	overcast sky, clouds that look like they will bring rain but don't
ŋalawurr (Dhuwa)	raincloud
nyika' (Yirritja)	rain, fine mist (light shower or large slow drops)
nyirnyir djildjilyun	rain in spots, 'spitting' or drizzle
rräma (Yirritja)	clouds at sunset represented by Red flag
wolma (Dhuwa) guŋmuk gunumburpuryun yambatthun	clouds forming in one place, building up over the ocean.
wuŋpundu	clouds forming in one place, building up over the ocean

## WATA WINDS

banydjurrma (Yirritja) gayilpaḁa	wind (north)
biw'yun boy'yun	to blow, fan (of wind in or of a person at a fire)
burmalala (Yirritja)	cyclone
dhuryun dhur-dhuryun	to float, as per leaves or paper in wind
ḁirrmala (Yirritja)	wind (north-east)
djambuwal (Dhuwa) bol'ḁu	wind associated with <u>larrpan</u> , tornado, waterspout cyclone, strong whirlwind associated with comets and meteors.
galkirri	to fall (over, down) blow (of wind)
gulk	to cut (in two), slice, sever, snap cease (of wind)
gundawirwiryun	to change direction (of wind)
mawirrirr (Dhuwa) bol'ḁu mayakaḁu	wind (east)



**BURRMALALA**

Cyclone

miwukthun to blow (wind)

nimiripin wind (south)  
(Yirritja)

wakarr' whirlwind  
wangurmina

wanḡalkal breeze signalling rain, cool change

wata wind  
wāṅji general term  
wanḡalkal  
wutharjiny  
bawuthu (Yirritja)  
gandhalirr (Dhuwa)

wārrk gale force winds and rain, cyclone  
(Dhuwa)  
wuyarriṯa' (Yirritja)

wun'kurr wind (west)  
mawi wata

yindi wata strong wind  
yindi wāṅji  
barrminy (Dhuwa)  
biyamarr  
garrminḡi wata (Dhuwa)  
mundul  
yindi wutharjiny



**WATA**  
Wind

## **MALTHURR WATAW MALA DIRECTIONS**

Directions, often associated with wind or rain from a similar though not always identical direction:

Luṅgurrma      North (Yirritja)

Djalathanṅ      South (Yirritja)

Bulwunu      East (Dhuwa)  
    bulunu  
    dhimurru

Bärra'      West (Dhuwa)  
    wun'kurr

Midawarr      Northeast

Lirra-ṅän'ka      Northwest

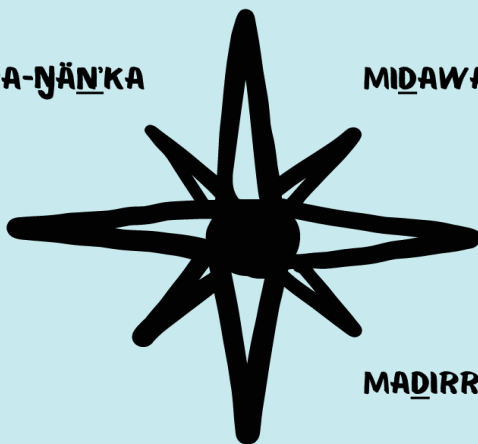
Maḍirrinny      Southeast (Yirritja)  
    manuṅgarra  
    manuṅgarri

**LUNGURRMA**

**LIRRA-NÄNKA**

**MIDAWARR**

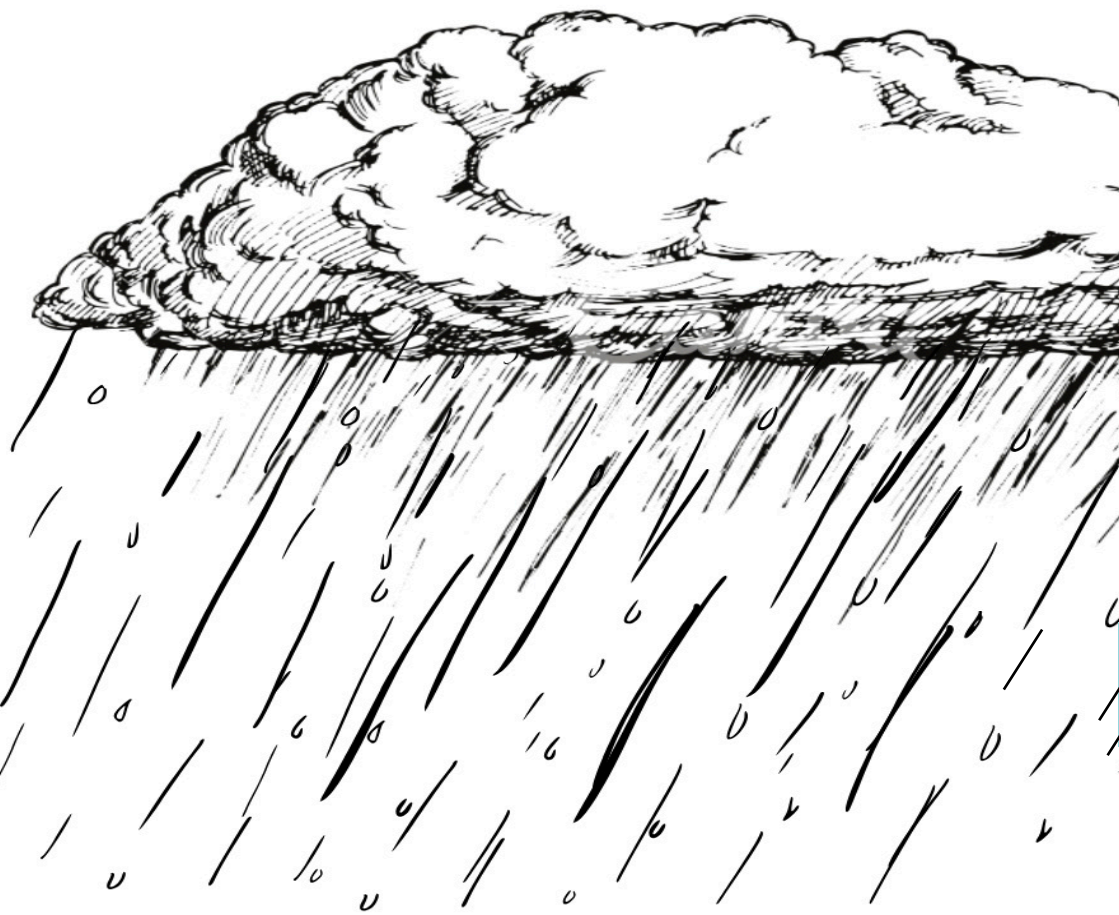
**BÄRRA'**



**BULWUNU**

**MADIRRINY**

**DJALATHAN**



**WALTJAN  
RAIN**

danga      calm when the rain stops, fine

dangathirr      to become calm when the rain stops

dharyun      to rain  
dhar

dhurrmuk      rain, constant, heavy  
dhukumul (Dhuwa)  
yalumul (Dhuwa)  
yananyumul (Dhuwa)





djin'tjindhun	to drip, sprinkle (rain water)
garr'karryun	float along (clouds), pass over (rain)
nyika'	rain, fine mist (light shower or large slow drops)
nyirnyir djildjilyun	rain in spots, 'spitting' or drizzle
rinydjirinydjimirr	indistinct, scarcely visible through the rain
wakulungul	fog, mist
waltjan	general term for rain, heavy rain, Wet Season
waṅbana (Yirritja) baḷkurrk baḷman maḷurrk maḷwurrk nyikamula ṅalaṅdarrawuy (Dhuwa) waḷuka (Dhuwa)	rain

## **GURRUWILYUN SEASONS**

mayaltha	season within the Wet when bush foods are not yet ready to be eaten and there is still some rain <i>December to March</i> changes of the environment
dhuludur'	when the first rain comes after the dry season, signalled by black clouds on the horizon and distant thunder and new shoots of plants appear for the first time after the dry season <i>October to December</i>
ritjimirr ritji	season of cold winds after the rains of the Wet, seas are a little rough
bärra'mirr gunmul waltjan	proper wet season, when North West monsoon rains and winds (Bärra') have come and everything is green <i>December to March</i>
dharratharra wädut	early dry season, when the nights become very cool, causing dew and mist in the early morning, when burning-off starts and the wind is from the south/south-east <i>May to July</i>

rarranhdharr	proper dry season, when most of the grasses have been burnt off and the stringybark blossoms signalling wild-honey time <i>August to September</i>
midawarr ŋatha-ŋamakuli	yams are big during this time and you can gather them, when the wind blows from the east, the heavy rains have stopped and only odd clouds are around. All the black clouds that are of the 'proper Wet' have broken down <i>March to May</i>
luku-nhāranhamirr	when the ground is really hot
gapu-ranhdhakmirr	"the dry"

In the Yolŋu worldview, time is fluid and focused on physical things, such as the sun and the moon.

Yolŋu time concepts are based on natural phenomena such as the seasons. They are generally much less specific about referring to a time in the past or the future by comparison to western perspectives.

## TIME WORDS

barpuru	yesterday
dharratharramirriy	dry season
dhiyaŋ bala	right now
dhunġarra	year
dhunġarra-ŋupan	every year
gäthur	today
gäthur godarr'	this morning
godarr'	tomorrow
milmitjpa	afternoon
munha	night
munhawu	tonight
munhawumirr	early morning
ŋalindi	month
ŋalindi-ŋupan	every month
ŋuriŋi bala dhunġarray	next year

waltjanmirriy	wet season
walu	day/sun/time
walu-dhawathunaray	sun-up
walu-gärrinyaray	sun-down
walu-ṅupan	every day (24 hours)
wiripunuy munhay	another night/tomorrow night
wiripunuy ṅalindiy	another month/next month
wiripunuy waluy	another day
yalala	later





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