

The Ninka language

of

Central Nigeria and its affinities

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TABLES

1. Introduction

This is an annotated wordlist of the Ninka language, spoken in Ninka village in Kaduna State, Nigeria. The wordlist was collected by Barau Kato from the village head, Timothy Mallam, aged 75 years, in Ninka on the 1st of August 2005. The wordlist was collected as a ‘one-shot’ exercise and the transcription must therefore be regarded as preliminary. This analysis was prepared by Roger Blench, who added the comparative observations. This document is being circulated to scholars for comment.

2. Location, history and sociolinguistic situation**2.1 Nomenclature****2.2 Location and settlements****2.3 Language status****2.4 Ninka culture and history****3. Phonology**

The phonology of Ninka is based on rapid observations and should therefore be regarded as tentative at this stage.

3.1 Vowels

Ninka probably has seven phonemic vowels;

	Front	Central	Back
Close	i		u
Close-Mid	e	(ə)	o
Open-Mid	ɛ		ɔ
Open		a	

The status of the /ə/ is highly uncertain, and it is probably a centralised allophone of /i/. For the present it is transcribed as heard.

3.2 Consonants

Ninka consonants are as follows:

	Bilabial	Labio-dental	Alve-olar	Alveopa-latal	Palatal	Velar	Labial-velar	Glottal
Plosive	p b		t d		[c] j	k g	(kp)	
Nasal	m		n			ŋ		
Trill			[r]					
Fricative		f v	s z	ʃ ʒ		ɣ		h
Approximant					y		w	
Lateral Approximant			l					

3.3 Tones

4. Morphology

4.1 Nouns

Gloss	sg.	pl.

5. Ninka wordlist

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
1.	Tree (generic)	kúnkún		
2.	Leaf	mgbəŋ		
3.	Root	riŋ	áriŋ	
4.	Branch	naŋ	anaŋ	
5.	Bark (of tree)	àkù		
6.	Thorn	tùnto	atúntó	
7.	Grass (generic)	gəga		
8.	Vine (generic)	ŋgungun	aŋgungun	
9.	Mushroom	jaw	ana-jaw	
10.	Water-lily	mbúmbúr məmí		
11.	Seed/stone/pip	mgbýǎŋ	mgbýóŋ	
12.	Charcoal	mgbir		
13.	Dust	mgbómgbó		
14.	Ashes	ntəŋ		
15.	Rubbish-heap	tógbàdí		
16.	Mud	ryántya	aryantya	
17.	Clay	tintyəm		
18.	Dew	àməŋ		
19.	Stone	mkpàn	mkpán	
20.	Sand	ambúrmbúr		
21.	Smoke	ntsəŋ		
22.	Fire	wúr		
23.	Water	àməshir		
24.	Rain	àwur		
25.	Cloud	akpa		
26.	Lightning	rinε		
27.	Rainy Season	mkipan vəwur		
28.	Dry season	ga		
29.	Harmattan	mvər		
30.	Year	ǰé		
31.	Today	àrəŋ		
32.	Yesterday	árəŋ		
33.	Tomorrow	ambwér		
34.	Morning	àmbwèr		
35.	Evening			
36.	Dawn	gbáátə		
37.	Day			
38.	Night	bu		
39.	Moon/month	dórŋkwà		
40.	Sun	àrì		
41.	Star(s)	àndís	andís	
42.	Wind	mgbú		
43.	God	àrig		
44.	Sky	fu		
45.	World	gəŋ məmí		
46.	Ground	məmí		

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No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
47.	Large River	ṣǎ		
48.	Stream	ṣḡḡḡ nwɔn		
49.	Lake, pond	ncam		
50.	Forest	tú		
51.	Mountain	ankum		
52.	Hill	gbù		
53.	Bush	ànkwan		
54.	Farm	arúm	rurúm	
55.	Field	gyú		
56.	Market*	dò		
57.	Compound	ikòp	àkòp	
58.	Room	tar	atar	
59.	Wall (of room)	kúmancìn		
60.	Thatch roof	kpáp	àkpáp	
61.	Granary	ikpù	anakpu	
62.	Well	dudukâ mafər		
63.	Road	itsər	ana	
64.	Path	àngawtsər	àngáwá	
65.	Village/settlement	ntòn	ntətòn	
66.	River-bank	tòn-nwɔn		
67.	Swamp/wetland	gbàdì		
68.	Place	àbúm	abum	
69.	Person/people	ndifir	ándifir	
70.	Man	nurúm	anarúm	
71.	Woman	wa	amba	
72.	Child	vəvən	amumwɛn	
73.	Husband	nákòp	abakòp	
74.	Wife	wa	amba	
75.	Widow	ansò-akó		
76.	Young man	vənanzà	amúvənanza	
77.	Young girl	vənuwa	amunamba	
78.	Old person	tsətsar-ndar	atsətsar	
79.	Father	ada	adəda	
80.	Mother	ya	ayiya	
81.	Barren woman	wanuku	mbabakur	
82.	Relations	andərama		
83.	Ancestors	ancəcim		
84.	Grandparents	iya		
85.	Grandchild	yámûṣ	aya	
86.	Brother	zumbwôr	amúzúmbwôr	
87.	Sister	vambwôr	amuvuvambwôr	
88.	Friend	ninká-ámù	ábenká-ámù	
89.	Guest/stranger	tsən	átsən	
90.	King/chief/ruler	tùm	àtùm	
91.	Hunter	nərap	áberap	
92.	Thief	nógip	ábénógip	
93.	Doctor	nənəmkəka		
94.	Witch	nətyən	ábétyən	

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No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
95.	Corpse	kúm	akúm	
96.	Blacksmith	nərǎ	ábérá	
97.	Woodworker	nəfəp	ábéfəp	
98.	Slave	gón	agón	
99.	Masquerade I	akâr	anakar	
100.	Masquerade II	àmbwĩ	anambwĩ	
101.	Masquerade III	rím	ánárim	
102.	Masquerade IV	rím-mkpyà		
103.	Prophecy	kì-ápi		
104.	Shame	ʃifa		
105.	Fear/fright	ʃifi		
106.	Bravery/courage	suswən		
107.	Laughter	mwar		
108.	Wisdom	giki		
109.	Guilt	bwyirkpá		
110.	Anger	mfu		
111.	Race/running	tswur		
112.	Suffering	jínákpà		
113.	Death	ku		
114.	Name	sa	asa	
115.	Grave	gun		
116.	Song	arən		
117.	Proverb	rèŋnɛ		
118.	Story	gyòm	gyòm	
119.	Word	mbaŋ	rɛŋ	
120.	Lie	mò		
121.	News	mkpyǎŋ	rɛŋ	
122.	Hunger	gyòn		
123.	Horn	nzòm	ànzòm	
124.	Tail	ndúm	andúm	
125.	Egg	mkpàn	mkpàn	
126.	Wing	amgbán		
127.	Beak	anumunôr	nunúmunôr	
128.	Nest	njèn	ánánjèn	
129.	Feather	ŋgû		
130.	Gum/glue	ntàm		
131.	Ant-hill	dòn		
132.	Hole in ground	dudu		
133.	Hole in tree	wòŋ		
134.	Smell	mgbɔ		
135.	Poison	kəka		
136.	Load	rí		
137.	Bundle	mbəmbà		
138.	Firewood	kúnkún-wú		
139.	Stick	mkpókì		
140.	Yam-heap	bubwa-adu		
141.	War	kúm		
142.	Work	ndúm		

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No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
143.	Divination (types)	nitò		
144.	Medicine (generic)	awú		
145.	Money	ankwór		
146.	Shadow	àgíndin		
147.	Thing	kì		
148.	Strength	tsě		
149.	Length	rě		
150.	Land/country	mòmí		
151.	Sleep	kùrna		
152.	Disease(generic)	rɔ		
153.	Smallpox	rɔyànkwǎn		
154.	Diarrhoea	tsur-aza		
155.	Eczema	wuwɔ		
156.	Goitre	wùtɔ		
157.	Boil	kpimkpi		
158.	Sore/wound	jíjì		
159.	Leprosy	àmkpɔ		
160.	Head	tó		
161.	Eye	kì	àyi	
162.	Face	tí	atí	
163.	Cheek	ɲan	aɲan	
164.	Forehead	anúti		
165.	Nose	mvər	amvər	
166.	Ear	tɔn	atɔn	
167.	Mouth	anu	nùnu	
168.	Tooth	ɲin	àɲin	
169.	Tongue	rɔryɛn	arɔryɛn	
170.	Throat	mwər	mwər	
171.	Neck	tɔ	atɔ	
172.	Jaw	ɲgeɲan	aɲgeɲan	
173.	Chin	ade	ádé	
174.	Shoulder	túmgbàn	atúmgbán	
175.	Armpit	dudumgbàn	adudumgban	
176.	Fist	nkyɛn	àkyɛn	
177.	Arm	tɔkò	atɔyɔ	
178.	Hand	kɔ	ayɔ	
179.	Leg	zá	azá	
180.	Foot	mbwàzà	ambwa-azá	
181.	Thigh	mbənzà	ambən-aza	
182.	Knee	gbarúm	agbaru	
183.	Nail (Finger/toe)	fàp	àfàp	
184.	Female breast	kè	àkè	
185.	Stomach	nə	ànə	
186.	Chest	san	asan	
187.	Navel	kum	akum	
188.	Back	gɔn	agɔn	
189.	Buttocks	daɲtin	andaɲtin	
190.	Penis	jìjìk	jíjìk	

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No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
191.	Vagina	iyá		
192.	Skin	kpá	ákpá	
193.	Bone	kúkú	akúkú	
194.	Rib	yísàn	ayísan	
195.	Vein	cún	acún	
196.	Blood	àgì		
197.	Breath	vòr		
198.	Tear	àmayi		
199.	Saliva	atinte		
200.	Sweat	àcirr		
201.	Urine	amanyin		
202.	Faeces	gyé		
203.	Hair	fùmfùkì		
204.	Beard	àntèn		
205.	Liver	asúsún		
206.	Heart	dwūr	dwúr	
207.	Intestines	ariré		
208.	Body	kpá	akpá	
209.	Meat	nam		
210.	Animal (Bush)	námárum	námárum	
211.	*Camel			
212.	Cow	ràndòn	rándón	
213.	Bull	nurúm-ràndòn		
214.	Calf	vóvòn	vəvən	
215.	Goat	gugú	agugú	
216.	He-goat	yír	yír	
217.	Castrated goat	bò	bó	
218.	Sheep	wántam	àwántám	
219.	Ram	ntùrù		
220.	Castrated sheep			
221.	Dog	gugu	agugu	
222.	*Cat	musâ	amúsá	
223.	*Pig	lede		
224.	*Horse	ṣàm	aniṣám	
225.	*Donkey			
226.	Elephant	ni	anini	
227.	Hippo	yèm	yém	
228.	Buffalo	gyàr	anigyár	
229.	Lion			
230.	Leopard	tse		
231.	Hyena ¹			
232.	Civet cat ²	wɔŋ	àniwɔŋ	
233.	Genet cat ³	bòn	ànbòn	

¹ (Crocota crocuta)

² (Viverra civetta)

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No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
234.	Jackal ⁴	gugu-nankwǎn		
235.	Wart-hog ⁵	àdì	anidi	
236.	Bush-pig ⁶			
237.	Duiker antelope ⁷	kpir	anikpir	
	antelope	sùn		lives in the forest
	antelope	tǎp		lives in the open field
238.	Kob antelope ⁸			
239.	Roan antelope ⁹			
240.	Porcupine ¹⁰	kpǎlûm		
241.	Tree pangolin ¹¹			
242.	Baboon	nkagbù	nikagbù	
243.	Patas monkey ¹²	kar	anikar	
		abé		this has long tail and trunk
		tsə̀		follows the 'nkagbù'
244.	Vervet monkey ¹³			
245.	Colobus monkey ¹⁴			
246.	Squirrel (ground)	tò	anito	
247.	Squirrel (tree)	àsirsan	àsírsan	
248.	Rat (generic)	cì	ànici	
249.	Bush-rat I	àza	àniza	
250.	Bush-rat II	ámpwìrr	ànàmpwìrr	smaller rats
251.	Bush-rat III	àcùm	ànicùm	stripped rats
252.	Bush-rat IV	bloblo	àbloblo	lives in swampy area (' mkprìfi ' in Mada)
253.	Giant rat ¹⁵	kpúr	ànikpúr	
254.	Fat mouse			
255.	Pygmy mouse	cìkəkar		
256.	Grasscutter ¹⁶	gyò	anigyó	
257.	Hedgehog ¹⁷	cìntó	cíntó	
258.	Hare ¹⁸	gyòm	ànigyòm	
259.	House-bat	àmkpun-nitar		
260.	Fruit-bat	àmkpun-nə̀nkwán		

³ (Genetta genetta)

⁴ (Canis aureus)

⁵ (Phacochoerus aethiopus)

⁶ (Potamochoerus Porcus)

⁷ (Cephalophus spp.)

⁸ (Kobus kob)

⁹ (Hippotragus equinus)

¹⁰ (Hystrix cristata)

¹¹ (Manis tricuspis)

¹² (Erythrocebus patas)

¹³ (Cercopithecus aethiops)

¹⁴ (Colobus polykomos)

¹⁵ (Cretomyces sp.)

¹⁶ (Thryonomys Swinderianus)

¹⁷ (Atelerix albiventris)

¹⁸ (Lepus Crawshayi)

Roger Blench & Barau Kato: Ninka Wordlist

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
261.	Nile crocodile	kwǔrr	anikwǔrr	
262.	Chameleon	kpánggɔn		
263.	Agama lizard	àgbǝ	ànigbó	
264.	Skink	àcimbórɔŋ		
265.	Gecko	àtárǎkpás		
266.	Monitor lizard (damo)	kùn	ànikún	
267.	Monitor lizard (xx)	gyòrr	ànigyòrr	
268.	Toad	gbàwò	ànigbawo	
269.	Frog	gbam	ànigbam	
		ázar		jumping frog (edible)
		mbwĩ		jumping frog but not edible
270.	Tortoise	kpǔrkpà	ànikpurkpa	
271.	Snake (Generic)	hwyǎ	ànihwyǎ	
272.	Spitting cobra	bì	bí	
273.	Python	ànik	àninik	
		báŋ		kasa
	puff-up	fòkpá		
		àwâm		lives in caves
		àkàcòr		green-like
		àndògbà		green
		wò		brown
		tsàhwyǎ		jikan mesa
		màzàm-ànàn		lives inside water
274.	Turtle	toto		
275.	Crab	kàw	ànikaw	
276.	River molluscs			
277.	Fish (generic)	àmbè	ámbe	
278.	Tilapia (spp.)	ànkənkám	ánkənkám	
279.	Puffer fish ¹⁹			
280.	Catfish (spp.) ²⁰			
281.	Nile Perch ²¹			
282.	Electric fish ²²	kpà	ànikpà	
283.	Bird (generic)	ninôr	nínór	
284.	Chicken	kùkǔ	akukò	
285.	Cock	àgbǎ	ágbá	
286.	*Duck (Domestic)			
287.	Pigeon (Domestic)	àgugúr-nikòp		
288.	Guinea-fowl	tsì	ànìtsì	
289.	Hooded Vulture ²³			
290.	Village Weaver ²⁴	ǰǎ	nǰa	

¹⁹ (Tetraodon fahaka)

²⁰ (Synodontis spp.)

²¹ (Lates niloticus)

²² (Malapterurus electricus)

²³ (Neophron monachus)

²⁴ (Ploceus cucullatus)

Roger Blench & Barau Kato: Ninka Wordlist

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
291.	Cattle-egret ²⁵	nór-rándón		
292.	Black kite ²⁶	ànkārâra		
293.	Standard-wing Night-jar	bòròtò		
294.	Owl (various spp.)	àkpâwũ	àkpáwú	
295.	Grey Parrot ²⁷	àfirírí		
296.	Senegal Coucal ²⁸	tífi	ànitití	
297.	Bush-fowl/partridge	kó	ànàko	
298.	Swallow	àncènà		
299.	*Pied crow ²⁹	àndís		
300.	Woodpecker	àgbugbò	ànigbugbò	
301.	Insect (Generic)	gbúgbuk		
302.	Scorpion	raṅ	àníráṅ	
303.	Butterfly	kpàmbárin	ànikpambarin	
304.	Dragon-fly	bòbòn-tàlà		
305.	Mosquito	wù	àniwù	
306.	Spider ³⁰	gàrěntēn	àgarenten	
307.	Mason wasp ³¹	azò	ànízò	
308.	Bee	sò	àníso	
309.	Sweat-fly	àwùrurú	àwúrurú	
310.	Sandfly			
311.	Housefly	cincin	àncincin	
312.	Ant (Generic)	kənke	ànkənke	
313.	Louse (Human)	ṅántù		
		ṅòn		kaska
314.	Millipede	àṅgámbwè	cíímámkpân	
		raṅgugu		centipede-like
315.	Cockroach	kpèrmkpà		
316.	Termite	gyo	gigyo	
317.	Flying-ant	wuwaw	wúwáw	
318.	Grasshopper	àdámgbâr	ànidamgbar	
		tsùtsò		small grasshopper (not edible)
319.	Praying mantis	àcàṅgóngon		
320.	Firefly			
321.	Giant Cricket	ntes	àníntes	
322.	Earthworm	njón		
323.	Giant Snail	mkpár		
324.	Soap (Traditional)	àtò		
325.	Oil	àpì		
326.	Fat/grease	àyò		

²⁵ (Ardeola ibis)

²⁶ (Milvus migrans)

²⁷ (Poicephalus senegalus)

²⁸ (Centropus spp.)

²⁹ (Corvus albus)

³⁰ (Acarina spp.)

³¹ (Belenogaster spp.)

Roger Blench & Barau Kato: Ninka Wordlist

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
327.	Salt	maŋ		
328.	Soup/stew	piŋ		
329.	Porridge	àmàn		
330.	Sorghum-beer	ayí		
331.	Palm-wine	àncèn		
332.	Peelings	fɛp		
333.	Filter	ɲur		
334.	Rag	kpɔ́-antùr	kpɔ́ntúntùr	
335.	Floor-beater	mambû		
336.	Handle (of tool)	mkpáwúp	mkpàwúp	
337.	Sickle	kìywa-ágágá		
338.	Cutlass	kìcəm		
339.	Iron	nkúr	amkpúkankúr	
340.	Axe	àŋgè		
341.	Adze	àŋgè-nizúr		
342.	Hoe I	kár	ànikar	
343.	Hoe II	kìkpùr-àbúm		
344.	Hoe III			
345.	Hammer	kìra		
346.	Knife	anjí	njìnjĩ	
347.	Comb	kivártú		
348.	Broom	tsəntsǎ		
349.	Bag	àdèp		
350.	Sack	àpòrò		
351.	Fireplace	àtsətsər	àtsətsér	
352.	Shoe	kpaza	àkpaza	
353.	Cloth	antúr	tùntúr	
354.	Grindstone (top)	vón-nina		
355.	Grindstone (lower)	nina		
356.	Mortar (wood)	jíŋ		
357.	Pestle	akúnkún	kùnkún	
358.	Pot (generic)	rəŋ	rəriŋ	
359.	Pot I	àncaman		for water
360.	Pot II	gàm		for storage
361.	Pot III	rìpiŋ		for soup
362.	Pot IV	rìŋsǎ		for cooking food
	jar	àmbû		
363.	Head-pad	mbəkǎr	mbəkar	
364.	Basket (generic)	səsàn	səsan	
365.	Basket I	àbúbǔ		for storing acca
366.	Basket II	mgbəmgbûn		
367.	Winnowing tray	mbumbùm		
368.	Mat (generic)	rɔg-pipa		
369.	Mat I	kàlàŋgà		
370.	Needle	kìkwàn		
371.	Spear	títòn		
372.	Bow	tita		
373.	Arrow	kàp		

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No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
374.	Quiver	àgbànduṅ		
375.	Chain	tsəntsəṅ		
376.	Rope	ririg		
377.	Stool	rǎn		
378.	Wooden door	anitsə̀r		
379.	Fence	mpàṅ		
380.	Bridge	nkwan		
381.	Ladder	àmpùmpùn		
382.	Canoe	gûm		
383.	Paddle	tsətsa		
384.	Bee-hive	àkàmpù		
385.	Fish-Net	àruru		
386.	Fish-trap I	àmvar		
387.	Fish-trap II	mvaṅ		
388.	Fish-trap III	ntsí		
389.	Snare	tyən		
390.	One	gyǎn		
391.	Two	ywa		
392.	Three	tàr		
393.	Four	nas		
394.	Five	tún		
395.	Six	tannì		
396.	Seven	tamgba		
397.	Eight	tandar		
398.	Nine	tres		
399.	Ten	wùrr		
400.	Eleven	wúr-ní-gyən		
401.	Twelve	wúr-ní-ywa		
402.	Twenty	səh-ywa		
403.	Twenty-four	səh-ywa-ninas		
404.	Forty	səh-nas		
405.	Sixty	səh-tannì		
406.	Eighty	səh-tandar		
407.	Hundred	àginàgyən		
408.	Black	fífər	afífər	
409.	White	kəkar	əkəkar	
410.	Red	fífən	afífən	
411.	Sweet	rè		
412.	Bitter	rěk		
413.	Half	mbír		
414.	Hot	wǔ		
415.	Cold	fì		
416.	Old	tsər		
417.	New	wúwàs		
418.	Wet	dídiṅ		
419.	Dry	kúkwùr		
420.	Smooth	kən		
421.	Add to	taṅfura		

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No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
422.	Answer (question)	tapima		
423.	Arrive	wànírir		
424.	Ask a question	rĩp		
425.	Ask/beg for something	bǎn		
426.	Awaken (s.o.)	ʃim		
427.	Bark (dog)	gbús		
428.	Be bent	dən		
429.	Be heavy	rĩ		
430.	Be on (s.t.)	sǎntù		
431.	Be rotten	bo		
432.	Be short	mgbǒk		
433.	Beat (drum)	ɣwur		
434.	Beat (s.o.)	tsek		
435.	Become dry	níkùr		
436.	Begin	vuŋri		
437.	Bite	far		
438.	Blow (flute etc.)	vǎr		
439.	Boil	àhwyír		
440.	Build (house etc.)	mɛ		
441.	Burn (fire burns)	riwúr		
442.	Bury	rò		
443.	Buy	rêp		
444.	Call (to someone)	gyǒ		
445.	Carry	gyǒr		
446.	Carve (wood etc.)	ʃép		
447.	Catch	vun		
448.	Chew	tǎŋ		
449.	Choose	tsǎh		
450.	Climb	wǎŋ		
451.	Close	kǔn		
452.	Come	pin		
453.	Come out (of room)	rǒ-bum		
454.	Continue (to do s.t.)	ḍibínám		
455.	Cook	sùr		
456.	Cough	ʃim		
457.	Count	ban		
458.	Cover	kǔn		
459.	Cut down (tree)	kyàh		
460.	Cut in two	kyàh-fur-ywa		
461.	Cut off (head etc.)	kyàh-kpyen		
462.	Dance	zur		
463.	Die	ku		
464.	Dig (earth etc.)	kaw		
465.	Divide/share	gàp		
466.	Do/make	nam		
467.	Drag	gbur		
468.	Draw water	gbur-mafir		
469.	Dream	rimrar		

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No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
470.	Drink	sɔ		
471.	Drop	tagyɔ		
472.	Dry in sun	rab-árìg		
473.	Eat	rí		
474.	Enter	rír		
475.	Extinguish	rĩm		
476.	Fall (rain)	kpyɛnku		
477.	Fall over	róku		
478.	Fear	ʃíʃí		
479.	Feel (cold etc.)	wo		
480.	Fight (in war)	mgbó		
481.	Fill	ʃuma		
482.	Finish (a task)	tər		
483.	Float	tsíntò		
484.	Flog	tseh		
485.	Flow (water etc.)	gbob		
486.	Fly (birds)	bwah		
487.	Fold (cloth etc.)	ɲín		
488.	Follow	zíp		
489.	Forget	ɣwúrʃí		
490.	Fry (in oil)	kar		
491.	Gather/collect	tunbĩŋ		
492.	Get	ta		
493.	Give	nih		
494.	Give birth	ɲir		
495.	Go	kɔma		
496.	Go out/exit	wǎŋrù		
497.	Grind	kò		
498.	Grow (plants)	fūr		
499.	Hatch (egg)	ɣǎr		
500.	Have	mòn		
501.	Hear	wǎ		
502.	Hit/strike (drum)	tséh		
503.	Hoe	kár		
504.	Hunt	ráp		
505.	Jump	tǎ		
506.	Kill	ɣũn		
507.	Kneel	tarágbarun		
508.	Know	gĩ		
509.	Laugh	mwar		
510.	Learn	wǎpgi		
511.	Lick	rě		
512.	Lie down	ʃíkùr		
513.	Listen	wǎ		
514.	Lose s.t.	saŋan		
515.	Marry	ɣǎn		
516.	Mix	cɔh-dùm		
517.	Mould (pot)	teyí		

Roger Blench & Barau Kato: Ninka Wordlist

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
518.	Mount	tankyen		
519.	Open	bũ		
520.	Pierce/stab	tũr		
521.	Plait (hair)	kah		
522.	Plant (crop etc.)	sá		
523.	Play	rər		
524.	Pound (in mortar)	tũ		
525.	Pour (liquid)	fur		
526.	Pull	gbàŋ		
527.	Push	tur		
528.	Put on (clothes)	sən		
529.	Receive	ta		
530.	Refuse	kà		
531.	‘Remain’	sən		
532.	Remember	fum		
533.	Resemble	rokpá		
534.	Return	ŋa		
535.	Ride (horse etc.)	să		
536.	Roast on coals	wùk		
537.	Rub	nuk		
538.	Run	tsur		
539.	Say/speak	ban		
540.	Scatter	fìrvàr		
541.	See	yik		
542.	Seek	wǒp		
543.	Sell	tsòh-rəp		
544.	Send	tũm		
545.	Set trap	àwǎw		
546.	Sew	kwàn		
547.	Shake	vàŋ		
548.	Sharpen	ŋòn		
549.	Shoot (arrow, gun)	ta		
550.	Sing	dɔ		
551.	Sit down	jísòn		
552.	Slaughter (animal)	ywà		
553.	Sleep	kùrna		
554.	Smash	tsik-ŋar		
555.	Smell	mgbò		
556.	Snap in two	kyàk-fur-ywa		
557.	Sow seeds	típ		
558.	Spit	rǒg		
559.	Split	fa		
560.	Stand	tyìr		
561.	Steal	gìp		
562.	Stir (soup)	tú-piŋ		
563.	Suck (breast etc.)	màn		
564.	Surpass	nǎŋ		
565.	Swallow	mwìr		

Roger Blench & Barau Kato: Ninka Wordlist

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
566.	Sweep	kũn		
567.	Swell	wù		
568.	Swim	dàn		
569.	Take	tsǎ		
570.	Tear (cloth etc.)	gbur-ŋan		
571.	Tell	ban		
572.	Throw	tɔ		
573.	Tie	rǎp		
574.	Touch	cɔkɔ		
575.	Twist (rope etc.)	kǎr		
576.	Untie	juh		
577.	Uproot (tuber)	kpàp		
578.	Vomit	kòs		
579.	Walk	tsǎn		
580.	Want/need	wǎp		
581.	Wash	nàr		
582.	Wear	sən		
583.	Weave	rɔg		
584.	Weed	kyɛŋ		
585.	Weep	gyèn		
586.	Wipe	rĩ		
587.	Work	ndúm		
588.	Yawn	ŋarŋən		
589.	I	ŋgǎ		
590.	You	wǎ		
591.	He/she/it	áwá		
592.	we	kwára		
593.	you pl.	giná		
594.	They	abá		
595.	Who?	seŋàn		
596.	Which?	táma		
597.	What?	seni		
598.	When?	nitáma		
599.	Where?	áni		

Edible and Useful Plants

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
600.	Guinea-yam ³²			
601.	Aerial yam ³³	tintyɛm		
602.	Red yam ³⁴	adófɪfən		
603.	Water-yam ³⁵	adókpəmkpap		

³² (*Dioscorea guineensis*)

³³ (*Dioscorea bulbifera*)

³⁴ (*Dioscorea cayenensis*)

Roger Blench & Barau Kato: Ninka Wordlist

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
604.	Taro (Old cocoyam) ³⁶	àgbà		
605.	New cocoyam ^{37*}	agbànàsàrà		
606.	Cassava ^{*38}	dukùm		
607.	Sweet potato ^{*39}	lawur		
608.	Wild yam I	mgbò	àmgbò	
609.	Wild yam II	nta	nənta	
	wild yam III	agbàrgbâ		found in the forest
610.	Tumuku ⁴⁰	anku		
611.	Rizga ⁴¹			
612.	Sorghum ⁴²	ikpú		
613.	3-month Sorghum ⁴³			
614.	Bulrush millet ⁴⁴ (<i>gero</i>)	dòrò		
615.	Bulrush millet (<i>maiwa</i>)			
616.	Eleusine ^{*45}			
617.	Fonio (H. <i>acca</i>) ⁴⁶	ikí		
618.	Iburu (H. <i>iburu</i>) ⁴⁷	àmǎn		
619.	Maize ^{*48}	kpǎwûr		
620.	Rice ^{*49}	njùr	mgbyǎn-njùr	
621.	Cowpea ⁵⁰	ǎn pàpàta		
622.	Spiral cowpea			
623.	Lima bean ^{51*}			
624.	Other beans I	ǎn-mòmì		spreads on the ground with only two seeds
625.	Other beans II	ǎn azakpo		
626.	Other beans III			
627.	Bambara groundnut ⁵²	àmfi-mkpamkpár		
628.	Kersting's ground-nut ⁵³			
629.	Groundnut (Peanut) ⁵⁴	ámfi		
630.	Tiger-nut ⁵⁵			

³⁵ (*Dioscorea alata*)

³⁶ (*Colocasia esculenta*)

³⁷ (*Xanthosoma mafaffa*) (H. wali)

³⁸ (*Manihot esculenta*)

³⁹ (*Ipomoea batatas*)

⁴⁰ (*Plectranthus esculentus*)

⁴¹ (*Solenostemon rotundifolius*)

⁴² (*Sorghum bicolor*)

⁴³ (H. *jigaari*)

⁴⁴ (*Pennisetum* spp.)

⁴⁵ (H. *tamba*) (*Eleusine coracana*)

⁴⁶ (*Digitaria exilis*)

⁴⁷ (*Digitaria iburu*)

⁴⁸ (*Zea mays*)

⁴⁹ (*Oryza sativa/ glaberrima*)

⁵⁰ (*Vigna unguiculata*)

⁵¹ (*Phaseolus lunatus*)

⁵² (*Vigna subterranea*)

⁵³ (*Macrotyloma geocarpa*)

⁵⁴ (*Arachis hypogaea*)

⁵⁵ (*Cyperus esculentus*)

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No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
631.	Garden egg ⁵⁶	ndéŋ		
632.	Okra ⁵⁷	àndòn		
633.	Chili pepper* (large) ⁵⁸	àrómpa		
634.	Birdseye chili* ⁵⁹			
635.	Onion			
636.	Tomato ⁶⁰	kyəs		
637.	Egusi melon ⁶¹			
638.	Melon (other) ⁶²			
639.	Edible squash ⁶³			
640.	Sorrel/roselle ⁶⁴	ʃé		
641.	Jews' mallow ⁶⁵			
642.	Kenaf ⁶⁶	nkón		
643.	Sesame seeds ⁶⁷	àfjɛn		
644.	Black sesame ⁶⁸			
645.	Sesame leaves ⁶⁹	mbúmbúr-min		
646.	Bitterleaf ⁷⁰	antún		
647.	Waterleaf* ⁷¹			
648.	Plantain (<i>Musa</i> AAB)			
649.	Banana (<i>Musa</i> AAA)			
650.	Orange* ⁷²			
651.	Bamboo	àmpùm	ampùm	
652.	Pineapple* ⁷³			
653.	Coconut* ⁷⁴			
654.	Pawpaw* ⁷⁵	kàbŭs		
655.	Gourd (Generic)	gwàra		
656.	Gourd-bottle ⁷⁶			
657.	Gourd (spherical) ⁷⁷	kəkən		used in swimming
658.	Other gourds			

⁵⁶ (*Solanum melongena*)

⁵⁷ (*Abelmoschus esculentus*)

⁵⁸ (*Capsicum frutescens*)

⁵⁹ (*Capsicum annuum*)

⁶⁰ (*Lycopersicon esculentum*)

⁶¹ (*Citrullus lanatus*)

⁶² (*Cucumis* spp)

⁶³ (*Cucurbita pepo*)

⁶⁴ (H. yakuwa) (*Hibiscus sabdariffa*)

⁶⁵ (H. lalo)(*Corchorus olitorius*)

⁶⁶ (H. rama) (*Hibiscus cannabinus*)

⁶⁷ (H. Ridii) (*Sesamum indicum*)

⁶⁸ (*Sesamum radiatum*)

⁶⁹ (H. karkashi)

⁷⁰ *Vernonia amygdalina*

⁷¹ (*Amaranthus* spp)

⁷² (*Citrus sinensis*)

⁷³ (*Ananas comosus*)

⁷⁴ (*Cocos nucifera*)

⁷⁵ (*Carica papaya*)

⁷⁶ (*Lagenaria siceraria*)

⁷⁷ (*Cucurbita maxima*)

Roger Blench & Barau Kato: Ninka Wordlist

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
659.	Cotton	àruru		
660.	Tobacco*			
661.	Sugar-cane*	anzan-mkpóre		
662.	Loofah ⁷⁸ (H. soso)	anzúnzú-aynukpá		
663.	Cola	dòwù		
664.	Oil-palm ⁷⁹	rěg	rég	
665.	Palm-fruit	túreg	atureg	
666.	Palm-oil	ápinfǎn		
667.	Palm kernel	akúkúrég		
668.	Raphia/ bamboo palm ⁸⁰			
669.	Fan-palm ⁸¹	ifǎn		
670.	Monkey-guava ⁸²			
671.	Canarium tree ⁸³			
672.	Custard apple ⁸⁴	mbūr		
673.	Wild date-palm ⁸⁵			
674.	Baobab ⁸⁶			
675.	Silk-cotton tree ⁸⁷			
676.	Shea tree ⁸⁸	zázáp		
677.	Shea-fruit	kpəmkpwər		
678.	Locust tree ⁸⁹	rǒ		
679.	Locust fruit	pǎn		
680.	Locust-bean cakes	iru		
681.	Tamarind ⁹⁰	ʃíʃaw		
682.	Sodom apple ⁹¹	tòtòfíyàw		
683.	Terminalia sp. ⁹²	nkǒ		
684.	Black plum ⁹³			

⁷⁸ (Luffa cylindrica)

⁷⁹ (Elaeis guineensis)

⁸⁰ (Raphia spp.)

⁸¹ (Borassus aethiopum)

⁸² (Diospyros mespiliformis)

⁸³ (Canarium schweinfurthii)

⁸⁴ (Annona senegalensis)

⁸⁵ (Phoenix reclinata)

⁸⁶ (Adansonia digitata)

⁸⁷ (Ceiba pentandra)

⁸⁸ (Vitellaria paradoxa)

⁸⁹ (Parkia biglobosa)

⁹⁰ (Tamarindus indica)

⁹¹ (Calotropis procera H. tumfafiya)

⁹² (H. baushe)

⁹³ (Vitex doniana)

Musical Instruments

No.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
685.	Drum I	gèngàn- mkpyá		
686.	Drum II	gèngàn-tsàp		
687.	Drum III	yìwáwúmgbàn		
688.	Flute	ntõp		
689.	Zither	ànzòm		
690.	Lute	àbábu		
691.	Xylophone	ntim		
692.	Harp	àywìywèn		
693.	Transverse horn	mpúrù		
694.	Clarinet	yír		
695.	Iron gong	àfǎ		
696.	Gourd-rattle	àwàfǎ		
697.	Ankle rattles	àncà		also worn as 'bante'
698.	rattles	àyòrǒ		worn by women as 'bante'
699.		mpà		fan-like instrument for dancing
700.		tàmpere		'tàkpere' in Ninkyob
701.		nzòm-tap		horn used for calling/announcing one's position during hunting
702.		nzòm-kusun		horn for draining clotted blood
703.		rɔn-mkpán		dara
704.		rɔ-ǝn		game of beans
705.		ànrìnkán		game of hide and seek with rope buried in the ground

6. Lexical comparison and the classification of Ninka

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