

Aboriginal Semantic Traditions in Australia

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M.I.T.

L. A Tradition of Antonymy in Central Australia.

(i) ^{You} ↓ 'Let me withhold water from another' = 'Give me a match'

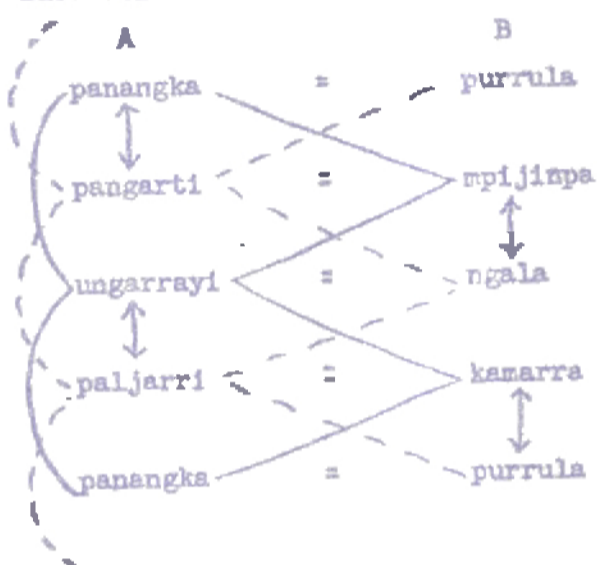
(ii) good/bad, big/little, etc.

kangaroo/euro (habitat)/hare wallaby (size), etc.

ego/alter ^a ^{hill} kangaroo

proximate/distal

(iii) Subsections:



A, B patrimoieties



agnation pairs

(iv) Perception domain:

<u>middle verb</u>	<u>transitive verb</u>
bleary-bleary-inchoative	see
plugged-plugged-inchoative	hear, feel
stuffy-stuffy-inchoative	smell

Walbiri

2. Damin (keeping silent) of Lardil, Mornington Island, N. Qld.

(1) Lardil: ngithun tunji-kan ngawa waa-ngkur werne-ngkiya-thur.

Damin: n'a n'2a-kan nh'2u tiiti-thur m'i-ngkiya-thur.

(my WiBro-GEN dog wo-FUT food-GO-FUT)

'My wife's brother's dog is going to go hunting.'

(ii) Phonology:

Click series /m', nh', n', ñ'/'

Glottalized velar /k'/

Ingressive lateral /L/

Others /p^r/, etc.

Built primarily on monosyllabic elements.

(iii) ego/alter n'a/n'u

now/not now kaa/kaawi

small/big jijuu/kurri-jijuu

one/many thuuku/kurri-thuku

light/heavy kawa2/kurri-kawa2

hither/thither kurrijpi/kurri-kurrijpi

(iv) Body Parts:

surfaces/points wii/n'aa-thuku

eye, head, hand k'uu, nguu, nguwi

fat Li

liquids n'2u

(v) The Great Classes:

ngajpu 'human'

thuu-wu 'wallaby'

wujpu 'land animals'

m'i-wu 'honey'

wijpu 'plant'

wu-m'i 'crustaceans'

kujpu 'stone'

nh'2u 'dog'

wii 'abstract, amorphous'

n'2u 'liquids'

m'i 'food'

ld 'bony fishes'

thii 'elasmobranch fishes'

thuu 'dugongs and sea turtles'

(vi) Verbs:

tii-ti 'action'

ti-ti 'hit, bite, kill'

wii-ti 'spear'

wii-wi 'burn'

ku-ti	'see'
kuu-ku	'feel, hear, feel sick'
ngaa	'die'

(vii) Kinship:

kuu	'harmonic parallel'
thungaa	'disharmonic parallel'
kungaa	'disharmonic cross'
n!2a	'harmonic cross, apical harmonic'
jii	'harmonic cross, apical disharmonic'

thungaa
Kungaa
n!2a

agnate parallel harmonic
non-agnate parallel
harmonic cross apical harmonic
harmonic cross, apical disharmonic

jii
kuu

all others (i.e. self and disharmonic uterine)