

The Ninka language
of
Central Nigeria and its affinities

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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	

Roger Blench & Barau Kato: Ninka Wordlist

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	árîŋ	
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	mgbýəŋ	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	mkràn	mkrán	
20.	Sand	ambúmbúr		
21.	Smoke	ntsəŋ		
22.	Fire	wúr		
23.	Water	àməshir		
24.	Rain	àwur		
25.	Cloud	akpa		
26.	Lightning	rinε		
27.	Rainy Season	mkràn vəwur		
28.	Dry season	ga		
29.	Harmattan	mvór		
30.	Year	ʃé		
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	dórnrkwà		
40.	Sun	àri		
41.	Star(s)	àndís	andís	
42.	Wind	mgbú		

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NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
43.	God	àrig		
44.	Sky	ƒu		
45.	World	gɔŋ mèmí		
46.	Ground	mèmí		
47.	Large River	ɲǎ		
48.	Stream	ŋgâg nwɔn		
49.	Lake, pond	ncam		
50.	Forest	tú		
51.	Mountain	ankum		
52.	Hill	gbù		
53.	Bush	ànkwán		
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	ákpáp	
61.	Granary	ikpù	anakpu	
62.	Well	dudukâ mafɛr		
63.	Road	itsɛr	ana	
64.	Path	àngawtsɛr	àngáwá	
65.	Village/settlement	ntɔn	ntɔtɔn	
66.	River-bank	tɔn-nwɔn		
67.	Swamp/wetland	gbàdì		
68.	Place	àbũm	abum	
69.	Person/people	ndifir	ándifir	
70.	Man	nurúm	anarúm	
71.	Woman	wa	amba	
72.	Child	vɔvɔn	amumwen	
73.	Husband	nókòp	abakòp	
74.	Wife	wa	amba	
75.	Widow	ansò-akó		
76.	Young man	vɔnanzà	amúvónánza	
77.	Young girl	vɔnuwa	amunamba	
78.	Old person	tsɛtsar-ndar	atsɛtsar	
79.	Father	ada	adɔda	
80.	Mother	ya	ayiya	
81.	Barren woman	wanuku	mbabakur	
82.	Relations	andɔrama		
83.	Ancestors	ancɔcim		
84.	Grandparents	iya		

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NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
85.	Grandchild	yámúŋ	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	
95.	Corpse	kúm	akúm	
96.	Blacksmith	nərá	ábérá	
97.	Woodworker	nəfəp	ábéfəp	
98.	Slave	gən	agən	
99.	Masquerade I	akâr	anakar	
100.	Masquerade II	àmbwĩ	anambwĩ	
101.	Masquerade III	rím	ánárim	
102.	Masquerade IV	rím-mkpyà		
103.	Prophecy	kì-áni		
104.	Shame	ʃiʃa		
105.	Fear/fright	ʃiʃi		
106.	Bravery/courage	suswən		
107.	Laughter	mwar		
108.	Wisdom	giki		
109.	Guilt	bwyirkpá		
110.	Anger	mfu		
111.	Race/running	tswur		
112.	Suffering	jínəkpà		
113.	Death	ku		
114.	Name	sa	asa	
115.	Grave	gun		
116.	Song	arən		
117.	Proverb	rəŋne		
118.	Story	gyòm	gyòm	
119.	Word	mbaŋ	rəŋ	
120.	Lie	mò		
121.	News	mkpyəŋ	rəŋ	
122.	Hunger	gyòn		
123.	Horn	nzòm	ànzòm	
124.	Tail	ndúm	andúm	
125.	Egg	mkpàn	mkpàn	
126.	Wing	amgbán		

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NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
127.	Beak	anumunôr	nunúmunôr	
128.	Nest	njèn	ánánjèn	
129.	Feather	ngû		
130.	Gum/glue	ntàm		
131.	Ant-hill	dèn		
132.	Hole in ground	dudu		
133.	Hole in tree	wòṅ		
134.	Smell	mgbò		
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		
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	məmí		
151.	Sleep	kùrna		
152.	Disease(generic)	rò		
153.	Smallpox	ròyànkwǎn		
154.	Diarrhoea	tsur-aza		
155.	Eczema	wuwò		
156.	Goitre	wùtò		
157.	Boil	kpimkpi		
158.	Sore/wound	ʃíʃi		
159.	Leprosy	àmkpò		
160.	Head	tó		
161.	Eye	kì	àyi	
162.	Face	tí	atí	
163.	Cheek	ṅan	aṅan	
164.	Forehead	anútí		
165.	Nose	mvèr	amvèr	
166.	Ear	tòn	atòn	
167.	Mouth	anu	nùnu	
168.	Tooth	ṅin	àṅin	

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NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
169.	Tongue	rəryen	aróryě̀n	
170.	Throat	mwèr	mwer	
171.	Neck	tɔ	atɔ	
172.	Jaw	ŋgejan	aŋgejan	
173.	Chin	ade	ádé	
174.	Shoulder	túmgbàn	atúmgbán	
175.	Armpit	dudumgbàn	adudumgban	
176.	Fist	nkyèn	àkyèn	
177.	Arm	tòkò	atoyo	
178.	Hand	kɔ	ayo	
179.	Leg	zá	azá	
180.	Foot	mbwàzà	ambwa-azá	
181.	Thigh	mbènzà	ambèn-aza	
182.	Knee	gbarúm	agbaru	
183.	Nail (Finger/toe)	fàp	àfàp	
184.	Female breast	kè	àkè	
185.	Stomach	nè	ànè	
186.	Chest	san	asan	
187.	Navel	kum	akum	
188.	Back	gɔn	agɔn	
189.	Buttocks	daɣtin	andaɣtin	
190.	Penis	jìjik	jìjik	
191.	Vagina	iyá		
192.	Skin	kpá	ákpá	
193.	Bone	kúkú	akúkú	
194.	Rib	yísàn	ayísan	
195.	Vein	cún	acún	
196.	Blood	àgì		
197.	Breath	vèr		
198.	Tear	àmayi		
199.	Saliva	atinte		
200.	Sweat	àcìrr		
201.	Urine	amanyin		
202.	Faeces	gyé		
203.	Hair	fùm̀f̀uk̀i		
204.	Beard	àntèn		
205.	Liver	asúsún		
206.	Heart	dwúr	dwúr	
207.	Intestines	aríré		
208.	Body	kpá	akpá	
209.	Meat	nam		
210.	Animal (Bush)	námárum	námárum	
211.	*Camel			

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NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
212.	Cow	ràndɔn	rándón	
213.	Bull	nurúm-ràndɔn		
214.	Calf	vóvón	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	ɲàm	aniɲám	
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	bɔn	àniɓɔn	
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	kpǎlúm		

¹ (Crocota crocuta)

² (Viverra civetta)

³ (Genetta genetta)

⁴ (Canis aureus)

⁵ (Phacochoerus aethiopus)

⁶ (Potamochoerus Porcus)

⁷ (Cephalophus spp.)

⁸ (Kobus kob)

⁹ (Hippotragus equinus)

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NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
241.	Tree pangolin ¹¹			
242.	Baboon	nkagbù	nikagbù	
243.	Patas monkey ¹²	kar	anikar	
		abé		this has long tail and trunk
		tsè		follows the 'nkagbù'
244.	Vervet monkey ¹³			
245.	Colobus monkey ¹⁴			
246.	Squirrel (ground)	tò	anitò	
247.	Squirrel (tree)	àsirsan	àsirsan	
248.	Rat (generic)	ci	ànicì	
249.	Bush-rat I	àza	àniza	
250.	Bush-rat II	ámpwirr	ànámpwirr	smaller rats
251.	Bush-rat III	àcùm	ànicùm	stripped rats
252.	Bush-rat IV	bloblo	àbloblo	lives in swampy area ('mkpriji' in Mada)
253.	Giant rat ¹⁵	kpúr	ànikpúr	
254.	Fat mouse			
255.	Pygmy mouse	cikèkar		
256.	Grasscutter ¹⁶	gyò	anigyó	
257.	Hedgehog ¹⁷	cintó	cintó	
258.	Hare ¹⁸	gyòm	ànigyòm	
259.	House-bat	àmkpun-nitar		
260.	Fruit-bat	àmkpun-nènkwán		
261.	Nile crocodile	kwǔrr	anikwǔrr	
262.	Chameleon	kpángòn		
263.	Agama lizard	àgbǒ	ànigbó	
264.	Skink	àcimbórɔŋ		
265.	Gecko	àtārǎkpás		
266.	Monitor lizard (damo)	kùn	ànikún	
267.	Monitor lizard (xx)	gyðrr	ànigyørr	
268.	Toad	gbàwò	ànigbawo	

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*)

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NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
269.	Frog	gbam	ànigbam	
		ázar		jumping frog (edible)
		mbwĩ		jumping frog but not edible
270.	Tortoise	kpürkpà	ànikpurkpa	
271.	Snake (Generic)	hwyǎ	ànihwyǎ	
272.	Spitting cobra	bì	bí	
273.	Python	ànik	àninik	
		báŋ		kasa
	puff-up	fòkpá		
		àwám		lives in caves
		àkàcèr		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.)	ànkènkám	ánkónkám	
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	kùkǒ	akukò	
285.	Cock	àgbǎ	ágbá	
286.	*Duck (Domestic)			
287.	Pigeon (Domestic)	àgugúr-nikòp		
288.	Guinea-fowl	tsì	ànitsì	
289.	Hooded Vulture ²³			
290.	Village Weaver ²⁴	ǰǎ	nǰa	
291.	Cattle-egret ²⁵	nór-rándón		

¹⁹ (Tetraodon fahaka)

²⁰ (Synodontis spp.)

²¹ (Lates niloticus)

²² (Malapterurus electricus)

²³ (Neophron monachus)

²⁴ (Ploceus cucullatus)

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NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
292.	Black kite ²⁶	ànkǎràra		
293.	Standard-wing Night-jar	bòròtò		
294.	Owl (various spp.)	àkpáwũ	àkpáwú	
295.	Grey Parrot ²⁷	àfirírí		
296.	Senegal Coucal ²⁸	tífí	ànititi	
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	àniráṅ	
303.	Butterfly	kpàmbárin	ànikpambarin	
304.	Dragon-fly	bèbèn-tálà		
305.	Mosquito	wù	àniwù	
306.	Spider ³⁰	gàrěntên	àgarenten	
307.	Mason wasp ³¹	azò	ànizò	
308.	Bee	sò	ànisò	
309.	Sweat-fly	àwùrurú	áwùrùrú	
310.	Sandfly			
311.	Housefly	cincin	àncincin	
312.	Ant (Generic)	kònke	ànkònke	
313.	Louse (Human)	ṅántù		
		ṅèn		kaska
314.	Millipede	àṅgámbwè	cícímámkpân	
		raṅgugu		centipede-like
315.	Cockroach	kpèrmkpà		
316.	Termite	gyo	gigyo	
317.	Flying-ant	wuwaw	wúwáw	
318.	Grasshopper	àdàmgbâr	ànidamgbar	
		tsùtsò		small grasshopper (not edible)
319.	Praying mantis	àcàngóṅgòn		
320.	Firefly			

²⁵ (Ardeola ibis)

²⁶ (Milvus migrans)

²⁷ (Poicephalus senegalus)

²⁸ (Centropus spp.)

²⁹ (Corvus albus)

³⁰ (Acarina spp.)

³¹ (Belenogaster spp.)

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NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
321.	Giant Cricket	ntes	àníntes	
322.	Earthworm	njón		
323.	Giant Snail	mkpár		
324.	Soap (Traditional)	àtò		
325.	Oil	àpì		
326.	Fat/grease	àyò		
327.	Salt	maṅ		
328.	Soup/stew	ṣiṅ		
329.	Porridge	àmàn		
330.	Sorghum-beer	ayí		
331.	Palm-wine	àncèn		
332.	Peelings	ṣep		
333.	Filter	ṅur		
334.	Rag	kpó-antùr	kpóntúntùr	
335.	Floor-beater	mambû		
336.	Handle (of tool)	mkpàwúp	mkpàwúp	
337.	Sickle	kìywa-ágógá		
338.	Cutlass	kìcòm		
339.	Iron	nkúr	amkpúkankúr	
340.	Axe	àṅgè		
341.	Adze	àṅgè-nizúr		
342.	Hoe I	kár	ànikar	
343.	Hoe II	kìkpúr-àbúm		
344.	Hoe III			
345.	Hammer	kìra		
346.	Knife	anjí	njinjĩ	
347.	Comb	kìvartú		
348.	Broom	tsèntsá		
349.	Bag	àdèp		
350.	Sack	àpòrò		
351.	Fireplace	àtsètser	àtsètser	
352.	Shoe	kpaza	àkpaza	
353.	Cloth	antúr	tùntúr	
354.	Grindstone (top)	vón-nina		
355.	Grindstone (lower)	nina		
356.	Mortar (wood)	jíṅ		
357.	Pestle	akúkún	kùnkún	
358.	Pot (generic)	rèṅ	rèriṅ	
359.	Pot I	àncaman		for water
360.	Pot II	gàm		for storage
361.	Pot III	rìriṅ		for soup
362.	Pot IV	rìṅsǎ		for cooking food

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NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
	jar	àmbû		
363.	Head-pad	mbekǎr	mbekar	
364.	Basket (generic)	sòsàn	səsan	
365.	Basket I	àbúbǔ		for storing acca
366.	Basket II	mgbəmgbûn		
367.	Winnowing tray	mbumbùm		
368.	Mat (generic)	rɔg-nɪɲa		
369.	Mat I	kàlàngà		
370.	Needle	kìkwàn		
371.	Spear	títòn		
372.	Bow	títa		
373.	Arrow	kàp		
374.	Quiver	àgbànduɲ		
375.	Chain	tsəntsəɲ		
376.	Rope	ririg		
377.	Stool	rǒn		
378.	Wooden door	anitsə̀r		
379.	Fence	mpàɲ		
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	mvaɲ		
388.	Fish-trap III	ntsí		
389.	Snare	tyen		
390.	One	gyǎn		
391.	Two	ywa		
392.	Three	tàr		
393.	Four	nas		
394.	Five	tún		
395.	Six	tanni		
396.	Seven	tamgba		
397.	Eight	tandar		
398.	Nine	tres		
399.	Ten	wùrr		
400.	Eleven	wúr-ní-gyən		
401.	Twelve	wúr-ní-ywa		
402.	Twenty	sǎh-ywa		
403.	Twenty-four	sǎh-ywa-ninas		

Roger Blench & Barau Kato: Ninka Wordlist

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
404.	Forty	sɔh-nas		
405.	Sixty	sɔh-tanni		
406.	Eighty	sɔh-tandar		
407.	Hundred	àginàgyân		
408.	Black	fɪfər	afɪfər	
409.	White	kəkar	əkəkar	
410.	Red	fɪfən	àfɪfən	
411.	Sweet	rè		
412.	Bitter	rɛk		
413.	Half	mbír		
414.	Hot	wǔ		
415.	Cold	ʃi		
416.	Old	tser		
417.	New	wúwàs		
418.	Wet	dídiŋ		
419.	Dry	kúkwùr		
420.	Smooth	kɔn		
421.	Add to	taŋfura		
422.	Answer (question)	taɲima		
423.	Arrive	wànírir		
424.	Ask a question	rǐp		
425.	Ask/beg for something	bɔn		
426.	Awaken (s.o.)	ʃim		
427.	Bark (dog)	gbús		
428.	Be bent	dən		
429.	Be heavy	rǐ		
430.	Be on (s.t.)	sɔntù		
431.	Be rotten	bo		
432.	Be short	mgbɔk		
433.	Beat (drum)	ɣwur		
434.	Beat (s.o.)	tsek		
435.	Become dry	níkùr		
436.	Begin	vugri		
437.	Bite	far		
438.	Blow (flute etc.)	vər		
439.	Boil	àhwyír		
440.	Build (house etc.)	me		
441.	Burn (fire burns)	riwúr		
442.	Bury	rò		
443.	Buy	rèp		
444.	Call (to someone)	gyǔ		

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NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
445.	Carry	gyǒr		
446.	Carve (wood etc.)	ǰép		
447.	Catch	vun		
448.	Chew	tǎŋ		
449.	Choose	tsǒh		
450.	Climb	wǒŋ		
451.	Close	kǔn		
452.	Come	ɲin		
453.	Come out (of room)	rǒ-bum		
454.	Continue (to do s.t.)	ǰibínam		
455.	Cook	sùr		
456.	Cough	ǰim		
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-maʃir		
469.	Dream	rimrar		
470.	Drink	sɔ		
471.	Drop	tagyɔ		
472.	Dry in sun	rab-àrig		
473.	Eat	rí		
474.	Enter	rír		
475.	Extinguish	rǐm		
476.	Fall (rain)	kpyenku		
477.	Fall over	rǒku		
478.	Fear	ǰifi		
479.	Feel (cold etc.)	wo		
480.	Fight (in war)	mgbó		
481.	Fill	ǰuma		
482.	Finish (a task)	tər		
483.	Float	tsíntò		
484.	Flog	tseh		
485.	Flow (water etc.)	gbob		
486.	Fly (birds)	bwah		

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NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
487.	Fold (cloth etc.)	ǰǎn		
488.	Follow	zíp		
489.	Forget	ɣwúrǰi		
490.	Fry (in oil)	kar		
491.	Gather/collect	tunbǎŋ		
492.	Get	ta		
493.	Give	nih		
494.	Give birth	ǰir		
495.	Go	kɔma		
496.	Go out/exit	wǎŋrù		
497.	Grind	kò		
498.	Grow (plants)	fūr		
499.	Hatch (egg)	ǰǎr		
500.	Have	mòn		
501.	Hear	wǎ		
502.	Hit/strike (drum)	tséh		
503.	Hoe	kár		
504.	Hunt	ráp		
505.	Jump	tǎ		
506.	Kill	ǰǎn		
507.	Kneel	tarágbarun		
508.	Know	ǰǐ		
509.	Laugh	mwar		
510.	Learn	wǎpǰi		
511.	Lick	rě		
512.	Lie down	ǰǐkùr		
513.	Listen	wǎ		
514.	Lose s.t.	saŋan		
515.	Marry	ǰǎn		
516.	Mix	còh-dùm		
517.	Mould (pot)	teyí		
518.	Mount	tankyen		
519.	Open	bǔ		
520.	Pierce/stab	tūr		
521.	Plait (hair)	kah		
522.	Plant (crop etc.)	sá		
523.	Play	rər		
524.	Pound (in mortar)	tǔ		
525.	Pour (liquid)	ǰur		
526.	Pull	gbàŋ		
527.	Push	tur		
528.	Put on (clothes)	sòn		

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NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
529.	Receive	ta		
530.	Refuse	kà		
531.	'Remain'	sòn		
532.	Remember	ʃum		
533.	Resemble	rokpá		
534.	Return	ŋa		
535.	Ride (horse etc.)	sǎ		
536.	Roast on coals	wùk		
537.	Rub	nuk		
538.	Run	tsur		
539.	Say/speak	ban		
540.	Scatter	ʃirvàr		
541.	See	yik		
542.	Seek	wǎp		
543.	Sell	tsòh-rɛp		
544.	Send	tǔm		
545.	Set trap	àwǎw		
546.	Sew	kwàn		
547.	Shake	vàŋ		
548.	Sharpen	ŋòn		
549.	Shoot (arrow, gun)	ta		
550.	Sing	dɔ		
551.	Sit down	jisòn		
552.	Slaughter (animal)	ywà		
553.	Sleep	kùrna		
554.	Smash	tsik-ŋar		
555.	Smell	mgbò		
556.	Snap in two	kyàk-ʃur-ywa		
557.	Sow seeds	típ		
558.	Spit	ròg		
559.	Split	fa		
560.	Stand	tyìr		
561.	Steal	gìp		
562.	Stir (soup)	tú-ŋiŋ		
563.	Suck (breast etc.)	màŋ		
564.	Surpass	nǎŋ		
565.	Swallow	mwìr		
566.	Sweep	kǔn		
567.	Swell	wù		
568.	Swim	dàn		
569.	Take	tsǒ		
570.	Tear (cloth etc.)	gbur-ŋan		

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NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
571.	Tell	ban		
572.	Throw	tɔ		
573.	Tie	rɔ̃p		
574.	Touch	cɔ̃kɔ		
575.	Twist (rope etc.)	kǎr		
576.	Untie	juh		
577.	Uproot (tuber)	kpàp		
578.	Vomit	kòs		
579.	Walk	tsǎn		
580.	Want/need	wɔ̃p		
581.	Wash	nàr		
582.	Wear	sɔn		
583.	Weave	rɔg		
584.	Weed	kyeŋ		
585.	Weep	gyèŋ		
586.	Wipe	rĩ		
587.	Work	ndúm		
588.	Yawn	ŋarŋɛn		
589.	I	ŋǎ		
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		

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Edible and Useful Plants

NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
600.	Guinea-yam ³²			
601.	Aerial yam ³³	tintyem		
602.	Red yam ³⁴	adójífèṅ		
603.	Water-yam ³⁵	adókpəm̀kpap		
604.	Taro (Old cocoyam) ³⁶	àgbà		
605.	New cocoyam ^{37*}	agbà̀nàsàrà		
606.	Cassava* ³⁸	dukùm		
607.	Sweet potato* ³⁹	lawur		
608.	Wild yam I	mgbò	àmgbò	
609.	Wild yam II	nta	nənta	
	wild yam III	agbə̀rgbà		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		

³² (*Dioscorea guineensis*)

³³ (*Dioscorea bulbifera*)

³⁴ (*Dioscorea cayenensis*)

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 iburua*)

⁴⁸ (*Zea mays*)

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NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
620.	Rice* ⁴⁹	njùr	mgbyǎn-njùr	
621.	Cowpea ⁵⁰	ǰǎn pàpàta		
622.	Spiral cowpea			
623.	Lima bean ^{51*}			
624.	Other beans I	ǰǎn-màmì		spreads on the ground with only two seeds
625.	Other beans II	ǰǎn 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			
631.	Garden egg ⁵⁶	ndéǰ		
632.	Okra ⁵⁷	àndòn		
633.	Chili pepper* (large) ⁵⁸	àrómpa		
634.	Birdseye chili* ⁵⁹			
635.	Onion			
636.	Tomato ⁶⁰	kyes		
637.	Egusi melon ⁶¹			
638.	Melon (other) ⁶²			
639.	Edible squash ⁶³			
640.	Sorrel/roselle ⁶⁴	ǰé		
641.	Jews' mallow ⁶⁵			
642.	Kenaf ⁶⁶	nkón		

⁴⁹ (*Oryza sativa/ glaberrima*)

⁵⁰ (*Vigna unguiculata*)

⁵¹ (*Phaseolus lunatus*)

⁵² (*Vigna subterranea*)

⁵³ (*Macrotyloma geocarpa*)

⁵⁴ (*Arachis hypogaea*)

⁵⁵ (*Cyperus esculentus*)

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*)

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NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
643.	Sesame seeds ⁶⁷	àfíjǎn		
644.	Black sesame ⁶⁸			
645.	Sesame leaves ⁶⁹	mbúbúr-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	kàbǔs		
655.	Gourd (Generic)	gwàra		
656.	Gourd-bottle ⁷⁶			
657.	Gourd (spherical) ⁷⁷	kəkən		used in swimming
658.	Other gourds			
659.	Cotton	àruru		
660.	Tobacco*			
661.	Sugar-cane*	anzan-mkpéré		
662.	Loofah ⁷⁸ (<i>H. soso</i>)	anzúnzú-aynukpá		
663.	Cola	dòwù		
664.	Oil-palm ⁷⁹	rěg	rég	
665.	Palm-fruit	túreg	atureg	
666.	Palm-oil	ápinjǎn		
667.	Palm kernel	akúkúrég		
668.	Raphia/ bamboo palm ⁸⁰			

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*)

⁷⁸ (*Luffa cylindrica*)

⁷⁹ (*Elaeis guineensis*)

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NO.	Gloss	Singular	Plural	Commentary
669.	Fan-palm ⁸¹	ĩṣ̄n		
670.	Monkey-guava ⁸²			
671.	Canarium tree ⁸³			
672.	Custard apple ⁸⁴	mbũr		
673.	Wild date-palm ⁸⁵			
674.	Baobab ⁸⁶			
675.	Silk-cotton tree ⁸⁷			
676.	Shea tree ⁸⁸	zézáp		
677.	Shea-fruit	kp̄əm̄kp̄w̄ər		
678.	Locust tree ⁸⁹	rḏ		
679.	Locust fruit	ṣ̄n		
680.	Locust-bean cakes	iru		
681.	Tamarind ⁹⁰	ṣ̄f̄àw		
682.	Sodom apple ⁹¹	tòtòf̄iȳàw		
683.	Terminalia sp. ⁹²	nkḏ		
684.	Black plum ⁹³			

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	gèngà̀n-mkpyá		
686.	Drum II	gèngà̀n-tsàp		
687.	Drum III	yìwáwúmgbà̀n		
688.	Flute	ntõp		
689.	Zither	ànzðm		
690.	Lute	àbábu		
691.	Xylophone	ntim		
692.	Harp	àywiywèn		
693.	Transverse horn	mpúru		
694.	Clarinet	yír		
695.	Iron gong	àfǎ		
696.	Gourd-rattle	àwàfà		
697.	Ankle rattles	àncà		also worn as 'bante'
698.	rattles	àyðrõ		worn by women as 'bante'
699.		mpà		fan-like instrument for dancing
700.		tàmpere		'tàkpere' in Ninkyob
701.		nzðm-tap		horn used for calling/announcing one's position during hunting
702.		nzðm-kusun		horn for draining clotted blood
703.		rɔ̀n-mkpán		dara
704.		rɔ̀-ǰǎn		a game of beans
705.		ànkrińkán		a game of hide and seek with rope buried in the ground

6. Lexical comparison and the classification of Ninka

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