The subgroup has multiple-classifying dialects with the phonemes as follows: b, d, dj, rd, k, h, m, n, nj, rn, ng, l, rl, y, rr, r, w, i, e, a, o, u (Carroll's for Gunwinjgu). A feature is the incorporation of noun objects in the verb as in Tiwi.

The following classification is a combination of that of Harris and Wurm, which differs in some important details to that of O'Grady et al. De?ynegmi and Djebmi have been added as Gunwinjgu dialects; the Girdimarg Subgroup as well as the Buanic Group and Bi Subgroup have been deleted and Gunbalang and Buan regarded as part of the Binin Subgroup; and Dangbon, Ngalgbon and Dalabon are now regarded as the one language.

Maiali (45Nr. 'RLS') is a general term used for the Gun-dialects which are centered around Oenpelli (Wood). Further information is that the word has different meanings in different areas. It is used in the Katherine - Beswick area where it would apply to a different group to that in the Oenpelli area.

11.1a Gunwinjgu * Oenpelli area, N40 (AIAS N65) western Arnhem Land
(43Nr.)

Gunwinggu (T, AC, Berndt, Oates, APE, Carroll, orig. AIAS), Gunwinjgu (Carroll, AIAS), Gunwinghu (Jernudd), Gunei (43Nr. 'RLS' - possibly a slurring of Gun-wunei - Glasgow) (Spelling changed on information supplied by Carroll)

Carroll has continued depth studies and has produced in typescript or processed form Gunwinjgu phonemes (1969), and grammar (1970), a computerized concordance (1970) and language lessons. R.M. & C.H. Berndt have published the text of 33 Gunwinjgu songs (Pacific Linguistics, 1970), and Harris a study of Gungurung - and Gunwinjgu mother-in-law language (also Pacific Linguistics, 1970). (The latter is structurally similar to Gunwinjgu and is usually referred to by the avoidance name Ngarrimikme meaning "we get (or take) abstention or taboo-ness", so as to avoid the real name Gunkurrun or Gun-gurung (Harris).

Carroll estimates the number of speakers to be about 900; 450 at Oenpelli and as many again in surrounding areas who know it as a second language. It has become the lingua franca for much of north-western Arnhem Land.

'man': bininj (Oates)