

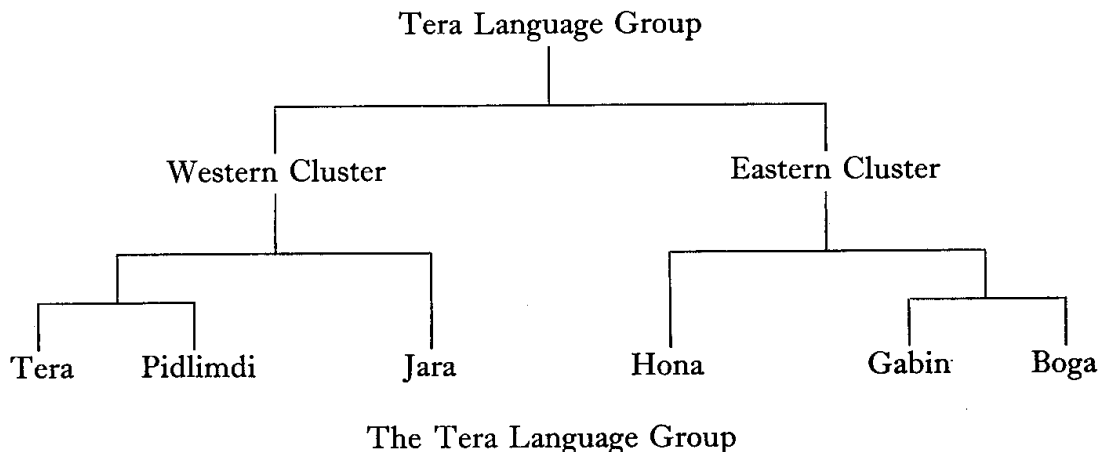
A WORD LIST OF TERA

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INTRODUCTION

The Tera¹ language is spoken in Bauchi and Bornu Provinces of Northern Nigeria, within a thirty mile radius of the town Dadinkowa on the River Gongola.² The Tera refer to themselves as *pimaṭi* or as *yamaltu* but they recognize the name 'Tera' and use that designation when travelling outside their home area for work or school. Westermann and Bryan (p. 157) estimate the number of Tera speakers as 18,000, a figure which seems reasonably correct plus or minus 20%.

Tera is a Chadic language. Within what Greenberg calls the Bata-Margi group (p. 46), Tera, Hinna (Pidlimdi³), Jara, Hona, Gabin and Boga⁴ constitute a distinct subgroup. This subgroup can be linguistically subdivided in a manner which corresponds to the present geographical separation: Tera, Pidlimdi and Jara (west of the River Hawal) forming one cluster and Hona, Gabin and Boga (east of the River Hawal) forming the other cluster. Furthermore, Tera and Pidlimdi constitute a single dialect cluster apart from Jara while Gabin and Boga constitute a single dialect cluster apart from Hona. (See figure.)



¹ This paper is based on the speech of Malam Adamu Zarma Wuyo, a native of Wuyo town in Bornu Province. Research was carried out during 1962-63 while the author was a member of the United States Peace Corps. The author would like to express his appreciation to the Peace Corps staff in Nigeria for their logistic support, to Dr. Carl Hoffmann and Dr. Wm. Welmers for their encouragement and valuable comments, and to Miss Florence Stowe who served as research assistant in Nigeria. Preparation of this paper and continued study of Chadic languages has been made possible by a grant-in-aid from the African Studies Center, University of California at Los Angeles. Finally, the author would like to thank Malam Adamu Wuyo, who proved to be an indefatigable worker and an intelligent and perceptive linguist.

² Some Tera towns are Wuyo, Hinna, Deba (*deba*), Wade (*wade*), Shinga, Kalshingi, and Zambuk.

³ Although 'Hinna' has been in use since the beginning of this century, it is a confusing term and ought to be replaced by 'Pidlimdi' (i.e., *piḡimdi* or perhaps *piḡimndi*) the name which these people use for themselves. Unlike the Yamaltu who fully recognize and use the foreign name 'Tera', the Pidlimdi are not familiar with the name 'Hinna' and never use it for themselves. Secondly, 'Pidlimdi' is a preferable term as it eliminates the possibility of confusion with the many towns named Hinna, especially the Tera town by that name on the River Gongola.

⁴ Meek (p. 369) lumped together Gabin, Ga'anda and Boga under the term Gabin. While it is true that Gabin and Ga'anda are almost identical dialects, Boga is linguistically more distinct than Meek's twenty word items indicate. Therefore, I suggest that Boga be treated as a separate linguistic entity until further research indicates otherwise.

PHONOLOGY

1.1. Tera has the following consonant phonemes:

labial	alveolar	palatal	velar
p	t	č	k
b	d	ǰ	g
ɓ	ɗ	ɟ	ŋ
mb	nd	nǰ	ŋg
f	s	ʃ	x
v	z	ʒ	ɣ
m	n	ɲ	ŋ
	ɬ		
	ɮ		
	l		
	r		
w		y	

1.2. The above symbols have the following phonetic values:

p, t, k are voiceless aspirated stops. In final position, they have a very light release.

č is a voiceless affricate.

b, d, g are fully voiced stops.

ǰ is a voiced affricate.

ɓ, ɗ, ɟ, g are implosive, lightly voiced stops. In final position, ɓ and ɗ are unreleased.⁵

mb, nd, ŋg are voiced stops with homorganic nasal onset.

nǰ is a voiced affricate with homorganic nasal onset.

f, s, ʃ, x are voiceless fricatives.

v, z, ʒ, ɣ are fully voiced fricatives.

f and v are labiodental.

m, n, ɲ, ŋ are voiced nasals. They are never syllabic.

ɬ is a voiceless lateral fricative.

ɮ is a voiced lateral fricative.

l is a voiced lateral without friction.

r is a trill.

w, y are voiced central continuants without friction.

2.1. There are six simple vowels and six diphthongs.

simple vowels			diphthongs	
i		u	iw	uy
e	ə	o	ew	oy
	a		aw	ay

2.2. The description of the vowels is by auditory comparison with Jones' cardinal vowels.

i sounds one-third of the way from CV₁ to CV₂.

e sounds one-third of the way from CV₂ to CV₃.

u sounds half way between CV₈ and CV₇.

o sounds half way between CV₇ and CV₆.

⁵ Malam Adamu explained, 'When lips stay closed it is hook b, but when you close your mouth then open it again it is a p'. Yet, there is considerable variation regarding the release of these stops in final position suggesting to me that there is some other phonetic feature which I have failed to notice which actually distinguishes final p and t from final ɓ and ɗ.

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These vowels tend to be slightly higher when word final than when medial.

ə is an unrounded vowel between e and o.

a is an unrounded vowel between CV₄ and CV₅.

iw, ew, aw start in the position of the vowel indicated and glide in the direction of u with lip rounding.

uy, oy, ay start in the position of the vowel indicated and glide in the direction of i with lip spreading.

Each diphthong, like each simple vowel, carries a single level tone.

3. Vowel length is not phonemic.⁶ There are, however, sequences of a plus a which appear phonetically as [a:].

4. Tera has three basic tones⁷: high ´, mid (unmarked in this paper) and low ` . What appear as rising and falling tones can in all cases be analysed as a sequence of two level tones.

WORD LIST

1. I have endeavoured to supply the nearest Tera equivalent for items in the Word List for African Languages provided by the West African Languages Survey. Numbered items are on that list. Items without numbers and comments in parentheses are mine. Hausa words added to aid identification are in parentheses and are marked H.

2.1. For each noun, two forms are given. The first is the singular indefinite form, e.g., ruf 'a baboon', sábí 'a stick', sádí 'a snake'. The second is the connecting stem (c.s.) which is used when a noun is inflected for number and definiteness or when it is followed by an adjective or the genitive particle, e.g.,

ruf- (c.s.) rufá 'the baboon', rufkú 'baboons', rufkwá 'the baboons', ruf gwandí 'a big baboon', ruf ɓaɗa 'my baboon'.

sábir- (c.s.) sábirá 'the stick', sábirkú 'sticks', sábirkwá 'the sticks', sábir gwandí 'a big stick', sábir ɓaɗa 'my stick'.

sáté- (c.s.) sáté 'the snake', sátékú 'snakes', sátékwá 'the snakes', sáté gwandí 'a big snake', sáté ɓaɗa 'my snake'.

2.2. Unlike the plural suffixes -kú and -kwá which are invariant in shape, the 'definite singular' suffix has two allomorphs, -a and -V→-a,⁸ with a distribution not entirely predictable on phonological grounds.

-a occurs with ALL consonant final⁹ connecting stems and with most having a final vowel other than -ə, e.g.,

ruf- (c.s.) rufá 'the baboon'; wúdí- (c.s.) wúɗya 'the milk'

dèrè- (c.s.) dèryà 'the cap' (note: i or e + a > ya).

⁶ This should be accepted as a working hypothesis rather than as a statement of fact. Though I have found no instances of contrast between long and short vowels, I still have doubts since it is not always possible to account for the considerable variation in the length of vowels (esp. a) in terms of their phonological environment.

⁷ Three tonemes are necessary and sufficient for marking lexical items. I have not yet worked out the more complex tonal pattern of longer utterances.

⁸ The tone of the definite singular suffix -a varies according to the following rule: If it is added to a consonant it takes a tone one step above the tone of the preceding syllable, unless that syllable is high in which case the suffix -a is also high. If it is added to a vowel, it takes the tone of that vowel. -a in the allomorph -V→-a takes the tone of the vowel which it replaces.

⁹ Including y and w.

pátú- (c.s.) pátwá 'the cat'.

tarko- (c.s.) tarkwa 'the trap' (note: u or o + -a > wa).

-V→-a occurs with ALL -ə final connecting stems and with a few stems ending in other vowels, e.g.,

sátá- (c.s.) sátá 'the snake'

kóró- (c.s.) kórá 'the donkey'

ji- (c.s.) ja 'the thing'.

In the word list, -V final stems (except -ə) occurring with this allomorph are marked (2) after the c.s.

2.3. There are a few instances of nouns which have a connecting stem with final -r to which the singular definite suffix is added and a stem without the -r which occurs in all other constructions. This is indicated in the word list by putting the -r in parentheses; thus, ɓo(r) indicates that there are two stems, viz.,

ɓor- (c.s.) with which one forms ɓorá 'the pot', and ɓo- (c.s.) with which one forms ɓokú 'pots', ɓo ɓaŋa 'my pot', ɓo vyàŋndi 'a red pot', etc.

3. The first form of the verb listed is the recitation form of the verb as well as the indefinite form of the verbal noun, e.g., pura 'to hoe' occurs in:

woyá wà pura 'The boy, past tense, hoed', pura gərgər 'Hoeing is difficult'.

The second form listed is the definite form of the verbal noun. Since the verbal noun is seldom inflected except in forming the definite singular, I have listed this form rather than the connecting stem. (There should be no confusion since all definite forms have final -a whereas connecting stems never have final -a.)

4. 'Adjectives' are listed as they would appear in the frame, ná . . . 'This is . . .', e.g., ná kəri 'This is long', ná ɓoŋ 'This is white', ná mewa 'This is new'. In attributive constructions, a suffix is added to the 'adjective': -ndé if consonant final and -kandé if vowel final (in which case the vowel is dropped unless it is -a). Suffix final -é is a connective; -é→-í indicates indefinite; -é→-á indicates definite, e.g.,

sáɓírá ɓoŋ	the stick is white	sáɓír ɓoŋndí	a white stick
sáɓír ɓoŋndá	the white stick	sáɓír ɓoŋndékú	white sticks
sáɓírá kəri	the stick is long	sáɓír kərkandí	a long stick
sáɓír kərkandá	the long stick	sáɓír kərkandékú	long sticks
sáɓírá mewa	the stick is new	sáɓír mewakandí	a new stick
sáɓír mewakandá	the new stick	sáɓír mewakandékú	new sticks

WORD LIST

1. one	dà
2. two	rap
3. three	kúnú
4. four	vət
5. five	gúrmùn
6. six	njòŋ
7. seven	mut
8. eight	míyasi
9. nine	mèkam
10. ten	gwàŋ

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11. eleven	gwàṅgəm dà	
12. twelve	gwàṅgəm rap	
13. thirteen	gwàṅgəm kúnú	
14. fourteen	gwàṅgəm vət	
15. fifteen	gwàṅgəm gúrmùn	
16. sixteen	gwàṅgəm njòṅ	
17. seventeen	gwàṅgəm mut	
18. eighteen	gwàṅgəm míyasi	
19. nineteen	gwàṅgəm məkam	
20. twenty	ɟirap	
21. twenty-one	ɟirap gám dà	
22. thirty	ɟin kúnú	
23. forty	ɟin vət	
24. fifty	ɟin gúrmùn	
25. sixty	ɟin njòṅ	
26. seventy	ɟin mut	
27. eighty	ɟin míyasi	
28. ninety	ɟin məkam	
29. one hundred	wón	
30. father	ɟinkì	
my father	bàbà	
31. mother	mankì	
my mother	nàna	
32. father's brother	ɟinkì	
33. father's sister	mankì	
34. mother's brother	ṅəɟinkì OR káwu	
35. mother's sister	mankì	
36. brother	xatínkì	
37. sister	xatínkì	
38. son (see 113-117)	woy OR ye xuskù	
39. daughter (see 114-117)	woy OR ye nufu	
40. grandson	ɟikankì	
41. granddaughter	ɟikankì	
42. grandfather	ɟikankì	
43. grandmother	ɟikankì	
44. son-in-law	sərvəkì	
45. daughter-in-law	sərvəkì	
46. father-in-law	sərvəkì	
47. mother-in-law	sərvəkì	
48. face (see 55)	mbəyiti	mbəyitə
49. skull (see 51)	dáb ɟin OR déktə ɟin	
50. brains	xuxúyni	xuxúyni
51. head	ɟin	ɟin
52. hair, of head	ɣos	ɣosə
53. nose	xən	xənnɔ̀ə ¹⁰

¹⁰ The transcription xənnɔ̀ə rather than xəndə is admittedly morphophonemic.

54. ear	ɣim	ɣimndə
55. eye	yiti	yitə
56. cheek	čaləŋ	čaləŋ
57. beard (chin only)	ɓoxom	ɓoxom
beard (full face)	gège	gège
58. chin	ŋgáxlám	ŋgáxlám
59. jaw (lit., bone of chin)	gəfə ŋgáxlám	
60. mouth	me	me
61. lip (lit., skin of mouth)	kəzəmnədəme	
62. tongue	ɣenà	ɣennədə
63. tooth (general term and incisor)	ɣin	ɣinnədə
canine tooth	ŋjiləŋ ɣin	
molar tooth	dəkəm	dəkəmnədə (less common) dəkəm
64. neck	gura	gura
65. nape	NO WORD	
66. throat	ɣùɣwàr	ɣùɣwàr
67. chest	méməná	mémənàr
68. breast, fem.	ɓùɓu	ɓiɓi
69. hand (arm)	xar OR bən	xar OR bən
70. fingernail (lit., nose of hand)	xənnədəxar	
71. nail	?	
72. elbow (see 69)	səbən	
73. shoulder	bembələm	bembələm
74. armpit (see 260)	mbəkopax	mbəkopax
75. finger (see 69)	ye xar	
76. back	ganà	gandè
77. heart	čučómbòl	čučómbòl
78. belly	mbu	mbi
79. liver	đúđóm	đúđóm
80. kidney	ye mbəwùkɛ	ye mbəwùkɛ
81. guts	ɣèđé	ɣèđé
82. leg	sarà	sarə
83. heel (see 81)	dəŋgə̀r sarà	
84. knee	xulukti	xulukta
85. toe (see 82)	ye sarà	
86. foot (see 82)	pəli sarà	
87. rib (lit., bone of side)	gəfə kəɓi	gəfə kəbdə
88. lung	fufuf	fufuf
89. buttocks	megès	megès OR megèsə
90. anus	megès	
91. penis	gun	gun
92. vagina	ɣuɓu	ɣuɓ
93. testicle	wuzir	wuzir
94. thigh	bol	bolə

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95. hip	buβúl	buβúl
96. navel (see 106)	méŋgin	
97. body	va	va(r)
98. skin	kəzəm	kəzəməndé
99. hair, of body	γos	γosə
100. blood	tòm	tòm
101. bladder (see 105)	ma wuŋgin	
102. gall	ndaxra	ndaxre
103. bone	gəf	gəfə
104. vein (lit., road of blood)	ndiβ tòm	
105. urine (see 106)	wuŋgin	
106. faeces	ŋgin	ŋginndé
107. sweat	waŋma	waŋme
108. saliva	ŋaxa	ŋaxté
109. voice	gura	gura
110. name	ɣim	ɣim
111. ghost	ndúkyiri	ndúkyirté
112. person	ndúkù	'the . . . ' ndifyá
person (plural)	ndúkkú	'this . . . ' ndiβná
113. man	xuskù	xuski
man (plural)	xuzùkú	
114. woman	nufu	nòyzə
woman (plural)	nufukú	
115. boy (see 113)	ye xuskù	
116. girl (see 114)	ye nufu	
117. baby	βéla	βélar
child	woy	woy OR ye (genitive)
child (plural)	βəsoŋka	βəsoŋki
118. youth	ŋaxfi	ŋaxfi
119. maiden	wanxa	wanxar
120. old man (see 113)	gema xuskù	
121. old woman (see 114)	gema nufu	
122. king, chief	kudi	kudi(r)
123. slave	màvə	màvi
124. God	màγam	
125. doctor	nəkəní	nəkənné
126. medicine	kuzi	kuzir
127. guest (stranger)	ruŋgù	rungi
128. friend	raptíki	raptíkir
129. hunter	nəgəri	nəgərté
130. weaver (see 544)	nəčaka	nəčake
131. potter (see 306)	nədənné βo	
132. thief (see 489)	nəmúru	nəmúri
133. water	ɣim	ɣim
134. river	garə	garə
135. rain	roma	romné
136. cloud	kòzòp	kòzòp

137. smoke	gən	gənnədə
138. dew	ḱəḱi	ḱəḱtə
139. fog	pondà	ponde
140. thunder (and lightning)	piḱàṅ	piḱàṅ
141. lightning (without thunder)	wutəma	wutəmar
142. sky (see 124)	mamàṅam	
143. wind	xəxet	xəxet
144. sun	fəḱà	fəḱàr
145. moon	tera	tere
146. star	anḱinḱà	anḱinḱè
147. day	fəḱà	fəḱàr
148. night	vidki	vidkir
149. morning	dùmàri	
150. noon (midday)	fəḱàri	
151. evening (lit., day of west)	fəḱàr mugù	
152. sunrise (lit., bursting open of place)	ḱafəma	
153. sunset (lit., falling of sun)	ṅḱədə fəḱà	
154. new moon (lit., breaking of moon)	ḱàr tera	
155. full moon	ḱon tera	
156. month	tera	tere
157. year	soní	soní(r)
158. rainy season	nomana	nomannədə
harvest season	zùrmà	zùrmàr
159. dry season	wəṅma	wəṅme
160. fire	ḱay	ḱay
161. charcoal	ḱəliḱ	ḱəliḱ
162. ashes	pəḱit	pəḱitə
163. tree	ḱəfa	ḱəfar
164. leaf	lòḱòsə OR ḱimndə ḱəfa	lòḱòsə
165. root	ḱəḱà	ḱəḱàr
166. branch (lit., arm of tree)	bən ḱəfa	
167. bark	ḱəḱà	ḱəḱàr
168. seed	pòn	pònə
169. trunk (lit., mother of tree)	man ḱəfa	
170. fruit (lit., child of tree)	ye ḱəfa	
171. flower	vi	vi(r)
172. thorn	ndéki	ndékté
173. grass	wùzən	wùzənnədə
174. mountain	ḱèṅ	ḱèṅ
175. hill	kwàrcáx	kwàrcáx
176. earth	ḱàḱ	ḱàḱ
177. ground (see 176)	ḱàḱ	
178. sand	wuji	wujir

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179. mud (wet earth)	dàxɓà	dàxɓè
mud (for building)	dàɓà	dàɓtə
180. dust	káláw	káláw
181. forest	zanà	zannɗə
182. village	bón gar	bón garə
183. town (see 176)	ɣày	
183. house	ráfà	rápté
184. room	kəbà	kib- 'kibya 'the room'
185. wall (of a room)	var kəbà	
wall (e.g., around a town)	gàruk	gàruk
186. door (lit., mouth of room)	me kəbà	
187. roof (lit., head of room)	jin kəbà	
188. path	ndəvə	ndiɓ-, ndifya 'the path'
189. road	ndəvə	
190. well	pàŋgáli	pàŋgáli
191. spring	me xənnɗə yidá	
192. farm	dàm	dàm
193. hoe	gaɓà	gaɓàr
194. sickle	ɣàw	ɣàw
195. stone	ndògu	ndògdə
196. iron	vi	vi(r)
197. copper	ŋgergimi	ŋgergimi
198. gold	dinarwa	dinarwe
199. silver	azurpà	azurpè
200. tin	kùzà	kùzè
201. animal (wild)	ɣùgar	ɣùgarə
animal (domesticated)	jéŋgà	jéŋgàr
202. hyena	mápúlù	mápúlù (2)
203. bat	lóm	lóm
204. scorpion	díŋgíliŋ	díŋgíliŋ
205. worm	xògà	xògdə
206. chameleon	xenéxene	xenéxene
207. termite, white ant	jàxɓà	jàxɓàr
208. ant (H. tururuwa)	yóyà	yóyàr
ant (H. kiyashi)	wùzìn	wùzìnnɗə
ant (H. cinnaka)	məçít	məçíté
ant (H. gwano)	wasáwasa	wasáwase
209. anthill (see 208)	mé gé yóyà	
210. lion	ŋgásán	ŋgásánndé
211. leopard	?	
212. elephant	jùwàn	jùwànnɗə
213. bush cow, buffalo	gomòk	gomòk
214. baboon	rúf	rúf
215. monkey (general term and esp. red patas)	viɗi	vité
monkey (black colobus)	njalán	njalán
216. crocodile	jiraŋ	jiraŋ

217. hippopotamus	kúǫúm	kúǫúm
218. lizard (general term; H. kadangare)	kàǫàx	kàǫàx
lizard (monitor; H. guza)	kwàzà	kwàzàr
lizard (iguana; H. damo)	xúmbur	xúmbur
219. snake	séǫí	séǫé
220. crab	ǫaǫáǫa	ǫaǫáǫe
221. tortoise	gùmbàxlà	gùmbàxlè
222. spider	lála	lále OR lalar (less common)
223. louse	ǫàǫgà	ǫàǫgàr
224. flea	tútól	tútól
225. mosquito	màdà	màdàr
226. fly	ǫí	ǫí(r)
tsetse fly	ǫǫǫit	ǫǫǫitè
227. bee	ǫíǫí	ǫíǫí(r)
228. honey	ǫí	ǫí(r)
229. frog	gùbòk	gùbòk
230. squirrel	ǫóká	ǫókté
231. cow	ǫa	ǫe
232. bull	geǫ	geǫè
233. goat	gùnò	gùnò (2)
234. he goat	bòkèrà	bòkèrè
235. sheep	ndəbàǫ	ndəbàǫ
236. ram	gàm	gàmndə
237. horse	pársí	pársé
238. mare	kəraǫ	kəraǫ
239. donkey	kóró	kóró (2)
240. antelope (roan)	vòy	vòy
241. antelope (duiker)	kèrgèr	kèrgèr
242. antelope (gazelle)	zènà	zènnə
243-245. antelope	?	
246. rabbit	pərgùs	pərgùs
247. chicken	kuzà	kuzə
248. cock	gačak	gačak
249. guinea-fowl	čivàn	čimndə
francolin (H. fakara)	ǫákəlák	ǫákəlák
250. mouse	ǫùm	ǫùmndə
251. bush rat	ǫúkó	ǫúkó
252. dove	mbólá	mbólé
253. pigeon	bùǫùr	bùǫùr
254. duck	məmày	məmày
255. turkey	tólótóló	tólótóló (2)
256. dog	ǫíǫa	ǫíǫə
257. cat	pátú	pátú
258. bird	ǫíki	ǫíkté

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259. feather	γos	γos
260. wing	kopax	kopax
261. egg	ηgarχì	ηgarχì
262. vulture	gòtik	gòtik
263. hawk (black kite)	kèlàrì	kèlàrè
hawk (lizard buzzard)	čičangír	čičangír
264. claw (see 70)	xənnədəxar	xənnədəxar
265. horn	doma	domndé
266. tail	ganà	ganndə
267. food	yá	yár
268. meat	χù	χù
269. fish	yurvù	yurvì
270. soup	gìnù OR gùnù	gìn
271. milk	wúđì	wúđì
272. salt	χèrù	χèrè
273. pepper	kìmbìlì	kìmbìlì
274. onion (old word)	làtém	làtémndé
onion (new word)	àlbàsà	àlbàsè
275. yam	čax	čax
276. guinea corn	gàwà	gùr
277. millet (H. maiwa)	ʃegà	ʃegdə
millet (H. gero)	méré	méré
278. palm tree	bòs	bòsə
279. okra	kàndà	kàndàr
280. beans	yín	yínndé
281. aca, <i>Digitaria exilis</i>	?	
282. maize	likám	likám
283. cassava	rógò	rógò
284. banana (old word)	máyába	(?)
banana (new word)	ayabà	ayabè
285. bambarra groundnut	wàdar kwakəđakndí	
286. beni-seed	ye xərvà	
beni-seed tree	xərvà	xərvàr
beni-seed (very thin)	lápáx	lápáx
beni-seed (thick, grey)	kosxor	kosxor
287. oil	mar	mar
288. grease	?	
289. fat	γəjìr	γəjìr
290. groundnuts	wàdà	wàdàr
291. kola nut	gorò	gorò (2)
292. stick	sáđì	sáđìr
293. spear	kàz	kàzə
294. sword	káskár	káskár
295. drum	χèrì	χèrtə
296. basket	tambəla	tambəle
297. mat	xéđà	xéťé
298. bow	ri	ri(y)

299. arrow	ɣàfà	ɣàptə
300. quiver	ʔíger	ʔíger
301. knife	ʔùgù	ʔùgdə
302. scissors	mákás	mákás
303. axe	čuvù	čuvì
304. rope	zo	? zo(r) OR ? zora
305. calabash	dóǎá	dóǎ
306. pot	bo	bo(r)
307. thing	tunù	ʃi (2)
308. language (see 183)	méɣàɣ	méɣàɣ
309. work	ʔónà	ʔónàr
310. war	ɣì dàxlà	ɣì dàxlàr
311. sleep	déni	dénir
312. dream	zine	zine
313. death	məǎi	mətá
314. corpse	məǎi	mətá
315. life	nifi	nifi
316. sickness	xáǎi	xátá
317. cough	kùǎà	kùǎàr
318. fever (esp. malaria)	zómǎra	zómǎre
319. sore	mbir	mbir
320. hole	gwa	ge
321. truth	ʃire	ʃire
322. lie	kwatáma	kwatáme
323. place	ma	ma(r)
324. time	sártí	sártí
time (not as common as sarti)	lókóǎi	lókóǎi (2)
325. fatigue (see 460)	ŋgúmì	ŋgúmndé
326. money	məǎjìn	məǎjinnǎ
327. market	gòmà	gòmàr
328. load	ʃípít	ʃípítá
329. boat	dəmbəl	dəmbəl
330. hunger	me	me(r)
331. thirst	xuǎùm	xuǎùmndə
332. shadow	dəmbà	dimbi
333. light (light place)	čanár ma	čanár ma(r)
334. robe	luku	luktá
335. clothing	luku	luktá
336. shoe	payàm	payàmndə
337. hat (wide brim, straw)	àgàǎà	àgàǎè
cap	dèrà	dèrè
338. ring	áyím	áyímndé
339. heavy	tadà	
340. light (not heavy)	lawlaw	
341. white	boŋ	
342. black	tíǎ	
343. red	vyàŋ	

A WORD LIST OF TERA

344. green	líwnà líwnà	
lichen	líwnà	líwnàr
345. yellow	likám líkam	
maize	likám	likám
yellow	xuḃaka xuḃaka	
a certain shrub with yellow roots	xuḃaka	xuḃake
346. blue	kálmá kálmá	
indigo	kálmá	kálmé
347. big	gori	
a big . . .	gwandi	
348. large	gori	
349. small	kóḃómmá	
350. many	xáŋ	
351. few	xáŋḃá	
352. all	káp OR káp káp	
353. thick	gàtèḃàk	
354. thin	líŋlíŋ	
355. wide	gətəpəŋ	
356. narrow	xéŋ	
357. hard	kwakəḃak	
358. soft	lumbuḃ lumbuḃ	
359. sweet	ŋér OR nér	
360. bitter	ʃot	
361. sharp taste	?	
362. sour	čomčom	
363. deep	kə̀rì	
364. shallow	kútúxúm	
365. long	kə̀rì	
366. short	kútúxúm	
367. good	mbari	
368. bad	mbarḃa	
369. full (see 530)	ŋeḃì OR njeḃì	
370. new	mewa	
371. round	sàkukúr	
lid for grain storage bin	kukúr	
372. dry	ɣwari	
373. dirty	rəŋnasi	
374. very clean	čám	
fairly clean	yaraŋ	
375. fat (obese)	mbə̀ni	
376. thin	xuguni	
377. dear	masarán čar	
378. cheap	masarán ndolndol	
379. near	biŋ	
380. far	giḃi	

381. sharp (like a knife blade)	mesi	
sharp (like a point)	wídwíd	
382. blunt (blade or point)	dòmkuđòk	
383. beautiful	mbari	
384. ugly	mbarɓa	
385. hot	gərgər	
386. cold	ndolndol	
cold (person's feelings)	mbìdì	
387. strong	čokurok	
388. weakness	sóŋdambər	
389. deaf person	medám	medám
390. deaf mute	ɓəɓám	ɓəɓám
391. blind person	pùgùm	pùgùm
392. today	mení	
393. yesterday	mbéđà	
394. tomorrow	wùri	
395. where?	fána	
396. when?	kotíya	
397. how?	kikimndá	
398. how many?	kimá	
399. why?	kimé néma or kəmé néma	
400. here	fán	
401. there	fára	
402. this	ná	
403. that	nánda	
404. thus	waná	
405. who?	kíya	
406. what?	néma	
407. everyone	akí	
408. everything	anám	
409. not	ɓa (tone variable)	
410. no one	ndúkɓá	
411. nothing	tunɓa	
412. inside	mbu	
413. outside	dám	
414. above	jine	
415. underneath	garyà	
416. front	guma	
417. behind	ganà	
418. left	gəđaw	
419. right	zəma	
420. between	tele ɓə	
421. north	zan	
422. south	wájá	
423. east	đoxaɓa	
424. west	mùgù	

A WORD LIST OF TERA

425. eat (e.g., cooked grain)	zəmi	zəmnđá
eat (e.g., groundnuts)	nji	njirá
426. drink	za	zará
427. swallow	đáká	đákára
428. urinate (see 105)	čí wujingin	wujinginndé
429. defecate	čí sóktévà	sóktévàr
430. do	čí	čírá
431. go	đí	đírá
432. come	ba	bará
433. return	gabì	gabta
434. enter	vi	virá
435. go out	vi nédàm	
436. walk	yí	yírá
437. go up	dí vídì	
438. go down	dí yàgày	
439. run	da	dará
440. mount, i.e., an animal	ləbì	ləbərə
441. see	na	nará
442. hear	təkì	təkta
443. smell	zi	zirá
444. touch	səbà	səbàra
445. taste	darì	dara
446. hit (with hand)	bəfi	bəfá
447. beat (once w/something)	ɣwadì	ɣwatá
beat (more than once)	ɣabì	ɣabta
448. kill	ɬayà	ɬayàra
449. insult	pəzi	pəza
450. pull	kədi	kədərə
451. push	təpá	təpára
452. carry	da	dará
453. bring	basi	barsa
454. lift	da nəvídì	
455. put down	dəŋ ɣà	dəŋndéɣà
456. lie down	gan ɣà	ganndé ɣà
457. sleep (see 311)	čí déni	đenir
458. dream (see 312)	čí zine	zine
459. rest	mási	másá
460. be tired	ŋgúmì	ŋgúmndá
461. open	gəni	gənnđá
462. close	zà	zàra
463. bury	pa	pará
464. read	karanta	karantará
read (verbal noun)	karatu	
465. write	bəla	bəlará
466. gather	tabà	tabàra
467. accompany	dəŋi	dəŋndá
468. burn	va	vará

469. roast	vi	virá
470. boil	kuraxi	kuràxta
471. sing (i.e., do a song)	čí tazà	tazè
472. say	zì	zìra
473. talk (i.e., do talk)	čí pífi	pífiè
474. tell	zì	zìra
475. ask	jami	jamndá
476. answer	zì	zìra
477. wish (want)	čimi	čimndá
478. refuse	jaŋ ɣà	jaŋndé ɣà
479. twist	mekéři	mekértá
480. chop (a tree down)	čàkì	čàkà
chop (into small pieces)	jaxlá	jaxlára
481. cut (e.g., w/knife)	ɣà	ɣàra
cut (e.g., w/machete)	kémì	kémndá
482. tear	ɣyaxì	ɣyaxtà
483. build	dəni	dənná
484. dress	čí káranvà	?
485. undress	feđi	fetá
486. swim	ge jim	ge jimá
487. put away	deŋ nákoŋgól	
488. hide	tukwá	tukwára
489. steal	múru	múryá
490. help	čatá	čatára
491. fall	ŋgəđi	ŋgəda
492. think	čáfi	čátá
493. know (savoir)	màɣa	màɣará
know (connaître)	zəni	zənda
494. remember	kóri	kóra
495. forget	monà	monara
496. dig	ra	rará
497. hoe	pura	purará
498. weed	ɣwudì	ɣwuta
499. teach (to)	čogà(ye)	čogara
500. learn	čogà	čogara
501. cry (i.e., do crying)	čí ɣò	ɣò(r)
502. laugh (i.e., do laughter)	čí mési	mésé
503. drive away	kòmba ßàrà	
504. seize	lawà	lawara
505. take (one of something)	da	dará
take (more than one)	ɣàri	ɣàra
506. give	vəri	vərtá
507. bite	kəđi	kətá

A WORD LIST OF TERA

508. shoot	ɣì	ɣira
509. sell	masa b̀ar̀a	
510. buy	masa	masar̀a
511. call	gá	gár̀a
512. sit	xá	xár̀a
513. give birth	xa	xar̀a
514. beget	xa	xar̀a
515. throw (at)	mbuki	mbuktá
516. follow	mbú	mbúr̀a
517. die	mədi	mətá
518. forge	bəɟi	bəɟa
519. increase	čátá	čátar̀a
520. decrease	katà	katara
521. dance (i.e., do a dance)	čí sápa	sápár
522. walk	yí	yír̀a
523. fly	gəri	gərtá
524. jump (stand up)	di	dirá
525. stand	tiŋɟà	tiŋndé ɟà
526. sneeze (i.e., do a sneeze)	čí ɟàčiki	ɟàčiki
527. yawn (i.e., do a yawn)	čí xóki	xókté
528. finish	wàdà	wàdàra
529. begin	sàsə OR jàsə	
530. fill	ŋeɟi OR njeɟi	njeɟà
531. marry	bəri	bərtá
532. show	wuɖi	wutá
533. dry up	ɣwari	ɣwará
534. be rotten	rəja	rəjará
535. surpass	duki	duktá
536. tie	gəni	gənndá
537. untie	pəri	pərtá
538. pour (in)	zi	zirá
pour (out)	mbéɖi	mbéttá
539. be wet	ŋgəɖi	ŋgətá
540. sweep	jeɖi	jetá
541. blow, of wind	NO WORD	
542. blow, with mouth	pi	pirá
543. obtain	gwà	gwara
544. weave	čaka	cakará
545. plait	ra	rará
546. divide	čaki	caktá
divide (same as caki)	njoxi	njoxttá
547. break (e.g., a stick)	jà	jàra
break (e.g., a bottle)	wùɟi	wùɟà

Pronouns	Independent	Subject	Object
I	ŋa	ŋa	ŋa
thou	tó	tó	ro
he, she, it	tin(i) ¹¹	(zero)	nda
we ¹²	tem(i)	tem	rem
you (pl.)	tun(u)	tun	nu
they	wár(à)	(zero . . . kú) ¹³	wárà

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¹¹ The final vowel is retained only when the pronoun is uttered in isolation.

¹² An old man at Wuyo distinguished between 'us (inclusive)' *mi* and 'us (exclusive)' *rem*. None of the younger people, many of whom spoke Bura in which they made this distinction, knew of this distinction in Tera.

¹³ The pluralizer *kú* is placed at the end of the 'sentence'.