

Boston University African Studies Center  
**Profiles in Nigerian Artisanry: The Artisans of Niamey**

11 September 2013

John Hutchison

*Student's guide to working with Profiles in Nigerian Artisanry: The Artisans of Niamey*

Contents :

- Guide to writing definitions in Hausa
- Answering questions and writing definitions
- Vocabulary & questions
- 13 video interviews of about 13 minutes each ; totalling nearly 3 hours
- Latin character transcript
- Ajami character transcript

## DEFINITION GUIDE

**Ma'ana (meaning, definition):** Yadda da ake yin bayanin kalmomi a harshen Hausa. (How to explain word meanings in the Hausa language.)

**da:** this relative marker following the head noun that introduces the relative clause must always be followed by a relative/focus form of the pronoun (either the continuous or the completive relative, thus for 3P suke or suka, etc.), unless the future is being used.

| <i>generic noun</i>         | <i>Question</i>           | <i>indefinite</i>            | <i>relative head (definition)</i> |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| mutum(in)/mutumiyar/ mutane | wa?/wane ne?              | kowa                         | wanda/wadda/ waɗanda              |
| abu [abin]                  | me?/mene ne?              | kome                         | abin da                           |
| wuri/waje [wurin/wajen]     | ina?                      | koina                        | inda                              |
| lokaci [lokacin]            | yausha?                   | koyaushe                     | (lokacin) da                      |
| -                           | Yaya?/kaka?               | koyaya                       | yadda                             |
| -                           | wane?/wacce?/<br>waɗanne? | kowane/kowace/<br>kowanne?   | -                                 |
|                             | wane?/wace?/<br>waɗanne?  | kowanne/kowacce/<br>kowanne? |                                   |

- **wuri place:** makaranta: inda (place that/where)  
Wurin da/Inda ake tafiya don a yi karatu/don a kara ilimi (where one goes in order to read)  
 Ban san inda yake ba. (I don't know where he is.)
- **abu thing (abin da)**  
 aiki: abin da (thing that/what)  
abin da ake yi don a sami abinci. (what one does in order to get food.)  
fensir: abin da ake rubutu da shi (what one writes with.)  
 Ban san abin da take yi ba. (I don't know what she is doing.)
- **lokaci time**  
 magaribu: lokacin da (the time that/when)  
Lokacin da ake yin sala idan rana ta kusa faɗi. (time when one prays when sun is about to set.)  
 Ban san lokacin da zasu dawo ba. (I don't know when they will return.)
- **mutumi(n) person/mutane(n) people**  
 ɗan su: wanda (masc)/wadda (fem)/waɗanda (plural) (the one that/the ones that)  
Wanda yake kama kifaye. (one who catches fish)

Boston University African Studies Center  
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Ba mu san wafanda suka yi mana sata ba. (We don't know who all stole from us.)

Ɗalibai: wafanda suke yi karatu a makaranta. (the ones who are studying at school)

ƙawa: wadda ake so sosai (the person (fem.) that one likes a great deal)

- **yaya? how? yadda the way that**

yadda: the way that/how

Ina jin mamaki, ban san yadda suka yi wannan ba. (I am amazed, I don't know how they did this.)

## ANSWERING QUESTIONS & WRITING DEFINITIONS

On the following pages, for each one of the Artisans interviews, a set of vocabulary words is presented requiring students to write definitions according to the above principles of definition writing in Hausa. For each artisan who is interviewed for this series, there are:

- agent nouns: nouns that describe the artisan and other occupations relevant to that artisan's work
- tool nouns: nouns that describe the tools required by the artisan to carry out his or her craft
- products or creations: nouns that describe the things made by a given artisan
- action words: verbs that describe the daily activities and requirements of the artisan
- knowledge: learning and knowledge requirements for the practice of a given trade or craft
- cultural practices: traditional cultural requirements and practices that are related to a given artisan's occupation
- ethnic group: a discussion of the traditional occupations, cultural practices and crafts of the various ethnic groups of the Republic of Niger.

### Tambayoyi: Questions

These are the generic examples of the kinds of question you are required to be able to answer:

1. Yaya sunan wannan dan/'yar sana'a? (artisan's name)
2. Yaya sunan sana'arsa/sana'arta? (name of the craft)
3. Mene ne aikinsa/aikinta? (description of work)
4. Yaya sunayen da ayyukan abubuwan da suke gyara? (names and functions of products)
5. Wane irin kayan aiki ake bukata don a yi wannan aiki? (tools that are required)
6. Ina ne ake yi wannan aiki? (place of work)
7. Wane ne ya koya masa/mata yadda ake yi wannan aiki? (how the person learned the trade)
8. Wannan sana'a ta yanzu zamani ko ta gargajiya? Ku ba da (explain cultural requirements & bayanin akan anfanin wannan sana'a ga al'adab na gargajiya. practices or modernity of work.)

INTERVIEW VOCABULARY & QUESTIONS

**Gidan Kallo na Kasar Niger na Gargajiya**  
**(traditional artisans from the National Museum)**

**Interview 1 : Illia Addoh, Shugaban Masu Aikin Hannu a Gidan Kallo**

bindiga gun

gargajiya tradition, history

gidan kallo museum

kafa found, establish

kayanmu na gargajiya our traditional objects

mashi spear

raiyuwa life, lifestyle

tarihi history

yaki war

Don me mutanen kasar Niger suka gina wannan babban Gidan Kallo? Ina amfaninsa? Wurin dabbobin Niger fa?

Wane irin sata ne mutanen suke yi a wurin kayan gargajiya?

**Interview 2 : Galio Uma, Makerin Azurfa**

azurfa silver

Bazabarme/Zabarmawa Zarma person/people

Buzu/Buzaye Touareg person/people

*forme* form, shape

kira da bakin karhe forge iron

makeri smith

makerin azurfa silversmith

munduwa bracelet

uwar makera anvil

yi sude solder

zubi mold cast metal

Lokacin da ya zo wurin babana ina yaro ... When he came to my father's place I was a boy ...

Tambayoyi :

1. Galio yana da shekara nawa lokacin da ya fara wanga aikin makerin azurfa?

2. Ina aka aihe shi?

3. Mene ne ya gada ga ubanshi?

4. Wane ne ya zo wurin babanshi ya koya mishi wanga aiki?

5. Mene ne mutane suke yi da yawancin kayayyakin wadanda makerin azurfa yake yi?

6. Wane irin mutane suke anfani da kuruwa dâgâdêz?

Boston University African Studies Center  
*Profiles in Nigerian Artisanry: The Artisans of Niamey*

11 September 2013

John Hutchison

7. Su wa suka fi sauran irin mutanen a wajen kira?

8. Wane irin mutane suke yi aikin kira na azurfa?

**Interview 3 : Sumana Bureima, Makerin Azurfa**

azurfa silver

Bazabarma/Zabarmawa Zarma person/people

Buzu/Buzaye Touareg person/people

*forme* form, shape

kira da bakin karhe forge iron

makeri smith

makerin azurfa silversmith

munduwa bracelet

uwar makera anvil

yi sude solder

zubi mold cast metal

Wane irin mutane suke yi aikin kira na azurfa?

**Interview 4 : Hashiru Rabiyyu : Mai Aikin Laka**

asusu bank, cash register, piggy bank

damawa mix together, work (clay)

gargari laterite

ginin tukwane throwing pots, making pottery

hoda powder

huda hole, orifice

kasko (kaskon tukunya) potsherd, fragment of a clay pot

laka clay

mai aikin lata potter

mai ginin tukwane potter

makubli potter's tool for shaping pottery

na gargajiya traditional

randa clay water jar

shafa rub, wipe, polish, smooth

sulbi being shiny and smooth

talle plate

tukunya pot, cooking pot

turaren wuta incense

yi walkiya shine

Tambayoyi:

1. Ina aka aihe shi Hashiru Rabiyyu?

2. Wane irin aiki yake yi?

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*Profiles in Nigerian Artisanry: The Artisans of Niamey*  
11 September 2013  
John Hutchison

3. Don me Hashiru ya ce wannan aiki ya yi gadonshi ne?
4. Mene ne yake yi da hwata?
5. Mene ne yake yi lokacin da ya sa tukunya cikin wurin gashi?
6. Daga ina ake samo laka da yake anfani da shi?
7. Mene ne jan gargari?
8. Mene ne asusu? Me ake sa cikin?
9. Lokaci nawa kan abin ya bushe?
10. Mene ne ake yi da talle? Kasko fa?
11. Ku yi bayanin bisa kan irin ayyuka da tukwane suke yi, da kuma mene ne amfaninsu?

**Interview 5 : Issa Sani, Masassaki**

gizago adze

goge rub, wipe

kiryia tree variety: prosopis oblonga, from which sculptors make mortars and pestles in Hausa country

madobiya tree variety: pterocarpus erinaceus or andira inermis, used in wood carving

magagari, magagarai (pl) file

marke tree variety, anogneissus leiocarpus, used in woodcarving. marke baki black marke; marke ja red marke

masassaki sculptor, wood carver

masu anfani da shi those who use it

sakamako result, conséquence

sassaka sculpt, carve wood

sulbi state of being shiny or polished, smooth

turmi mortar

Tambayoyi :

1. Yaya sunan masassakin?
2. Wane irin aiki ne masassaki yake yi ?
3. Yaya Isa Sani ya shiga aiki irin wannan?
4. Wane irin aiki yake anfani da shi?
5. Wane lokaci ba a samun ice? Don me? Me ya hana su?
6. Wane irin mutum ya fi sayen kayayyakin ice?
7. Don me wadansu mutane zasu hana masassakin ya yi aure?
8. Mene ne Katako?
9. Yaya masassakin yake gyaran giwar ice?
10. Wane irin wahalar kayan aiki masassakin yake sha ?

**Interview 6: Abdulwahid Gumar, Masaki**

ado pattern, decoration

anfani use, utility, importance

Boston University African Studies Center  
*Profiles in Nigerian Artisanry: The Artisans of Niamey*  
11 September 2013  
John Hutchison

- arme marriage  
banbanci/bambanci difference  
bargo blanket  
kala-kala all different colors  
kasuwanci marketing  
kayan aiki work materials  
kwarya term referring to a woven strip of cloth, part of a blanket  
liddai ladle  
luru wide woven strip  
masaki weaver  
saka/yi saka weaving  
samu ciniki do business, have customers  
yana sakar zane he is weaving cloth  
zane, zannuwa pagne, cloth wrap  
zare thread  
Tambayoyi :  
1. Yaya sunan masakin?  
2. Ina aka aihe shi?  
3. Wane ne ya koya mishi aikinshi? Yaya ya san yadda ake saka?  
4. Shekara nawa ne ya kamata mutumin ya ye kahin ya iya sosai?  
5. Yaya wanda ya koya mishi zai sallame shi? Yaushe?  
6. Yaya sunayen kayayyakin aikinshi da kuma, mene ne amfanin kowane?  
7. Ina ne ya sami liddanshi? Wane ne ya gyara mishi shi?  
8. Don me yake da liddai guda biyu?  
9. Sai ku ba da bayanni akan yadda ake yi saka.  
10. Wane launin zare yake amfani da shi?  
11. Maza ko mata suke yin aikin saka?  
12. Mene ne teƙa-teƙa da kunta?  
13. Don me a lokacin arme za'a saye teƙa-teƙa guda biyu?  
14. Don me yawancin masu yin saka ya rage yanzu?  
15. Amma a ganin masakin nan namu, saka tana da anfani ko?

**Kasuwar Wadata na Zamani**  
**(Modern Artisans of the Wadata Market)**

**Interview 7: Dan Iya, Mai Ginin Sakar Kujeru**

- igiyar leda plastic rope  
kaushu rubber  
kirtani string  
kujera chair

Boston University African Studies Center  
*Profiles in Nigerian Artisanry: The Artisans of Niamey*  
11 September 2013  
John Hutchison

karhe steel

leda/roba plastic, rubber

*lit picot* cot

pentir paint

sana'a craft, trade

zare string/thread

Ya naɗa wa kujera kirtani. He wrapped the chair with string.

Na iske manyanmu suna yi. I encountered my elders already doing this.

Tambayoyi :

1. Daga ina Mai Sakaƙ Kujueru ya fito ?
2. In an sayo karhe sai kuma a sa me da me kan a saida?
3. Waɗanne kayayyaki suke yi da wanga karhe? Me da me?
4. Mene ne banbanci a tsakanin sana'ar sakan kujeru da sauran sana'o'in gargajiya ?

**Interview 8 : Laouali Tankari, Mai Yankan Taya**

*amartisar* shock absorber

*katarpillar* caterpillar tractor

*lime* file

*marto* babba big hammer

taya/kafar mota/fine tire

yuka knife

Tambayoyi :

1. Mene ne masu aikin yankan taya suke yi da taya?
2. Wane irin kayayyakin aiki mai yankan taya yake anfani da su?
3. Me suke yi da maƙto babba?
4. Aikin nasu ya fi aikin su Ibo-ibo na Najeriya daɗewa ko?
5. Mene ne amfanin wannan aiki da Tankari yake yi? Muhimmancinsa fa?

**Interview 9 : Maryama Ibrahim, Makitsiya**

al'ada custom, tradition, habit

Bararaji the Bororo Fulani people

karkato twist

makitsiya hairdresser

mashaci comb

modal style, model

tsinke long needle for dividing hair

kitso hairdressing, hair braiding

kitson Tawa, kitson Maradi hair braiding of Tahoua, hairbraiding of Maradi

lauya gashi rolling up the hair

tsaga split, divide



Boston University African Studies Center  
*Profiles in Nigerian Artisanry: The Artisans of Niamey*  
11 September 2013  
John Hutchison

tashin soja, mali mali, mayi mesira

Tambayoyi:

1. Mene ne ta ce kamar bayanni bisa kan dalilin da ta fara aikin kitse?
2. Wane ne ya koya mata kitse?
3. Mene ne amfanin tsinke?
4. Me ya sa bas u aiki da mashaci?
5. Wane irin kitse makitsiya zata yi mata? Yaya ake gyara kan mutum mai wannan kitse?
6. Wane lokaci ne aikin kitso ya hi yawa? Don me?
7. Wadanda suka saba da ita, me suke yi in suna neman kitso ?
8. A ina ne ake yi kitso na bugaje? Wane irin kitso ne wannan?
9. Wannan makitsiya tana yin na maza kuma?
10. Dala nawa ne makitsiya take tambaya in ta gama yin kitso?

**Interview 10 : Kadi Mariko, Mai Dumkin Zane**

atamfa printed yardage/yard goods/cloth

ɗumki sewing

mai zane designer

sa tufafi dress, get dressed

tufafi clothing

yadi cloth, yard goods

zane pagne cloth wrapper

zana design clothing

Tambayoyi :

1. Wane ne ya koya ma Kadi ɗumki?
2. Don me uwarta ba ta son ta yi anfani da mashin?
3. Ban da ɗumki kuma, wane irin aiki ne Kadi ta koya?
4. Wane irin zane take anfani da su lokacin da take ɗumki ? Daga ina suke zuwa?
5. Mene ne kishin a?
6. Ina take samun kuɗi? Me taka son ta yi a kasarta?

**Interview 11 : Salamatu Lawali, Mai Lalle**

bakin lalle black henna

jan lalle red henna

leda, ledodi plastic, plastic bag

motif ga zane pattern or design from a pagne

Mene ne amfanin san lalle da mai lalle take yi ?

Wane irin wahala mai lalle take sha ? (ga wuta, ga *taxes*, ga ruwa, da sauransu)

Tambayoyi :

1. A ganinta mene ne anfanin aikin hannu kamar aikin da take yi ?

Boston University African Studies Center  
*Profiles in Nigerian Artisanry: The Artisans of Niamey*

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John Hutchison

2. Wane lokaci ne ana anfani da lalle sosai ?

3. Mene ne bambanci a tsakanin lallen Lañabawa da wanda babbaƙun mutane suke ye ?

**Interview 12: Umaru Adamu, Mai Duma**

duma crawling gourd plant that produces calabash gourds

hwatar akuya goat skin

hwatar shanu cowhide

kidin kalangu playing the talking drum

kidin suna drumming for a naming ceremony

ƙwarya calabash gourd

Don me Mai Duma ya ce duka kifi, duka ko na kalangu ne, ko na ganga ne, ko na mine ne duka magana ce!

Tambayoyi :

1. Wadanne kayayyaki Mai Duma yake gyara?

2. Ina ne asulin wanga aikin Mai Duma a kasar Nijañ Nijañ

3. Mene ne Kidin uwa ðiya?

4. Wane lokaci ne ake kira Mai Duma ya yi kifi ?Don me?

5. Mene ne gada?

6. Don me Mai Duma ya ce duka kifi, duka ko na kalangu ne, ko na ganga ne, ko na mine ne duka magana ce!

**Interview 13: Yazi Dogo, Sarkin Wasan Kwaikwaiyo**

magani, magunguna medicine, medical treatment

ðan wasa actor

gidan wasan kwaikwaiyo theater, place of acting

kashi act of a play

wasan kwaikwaiyo theater, acting

'yar wasa actor (fem.)

Tambayoyi:

1. Don me aikin hannu yana nan yana tabarbarewa, kamar yadda Yazi Dogo ya ce?

2. Me ya sa zannuwan gargajiya sun bace?

3. A ganin Yazi Dogo, me da me suke bacewa a kasar Hausawa?



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