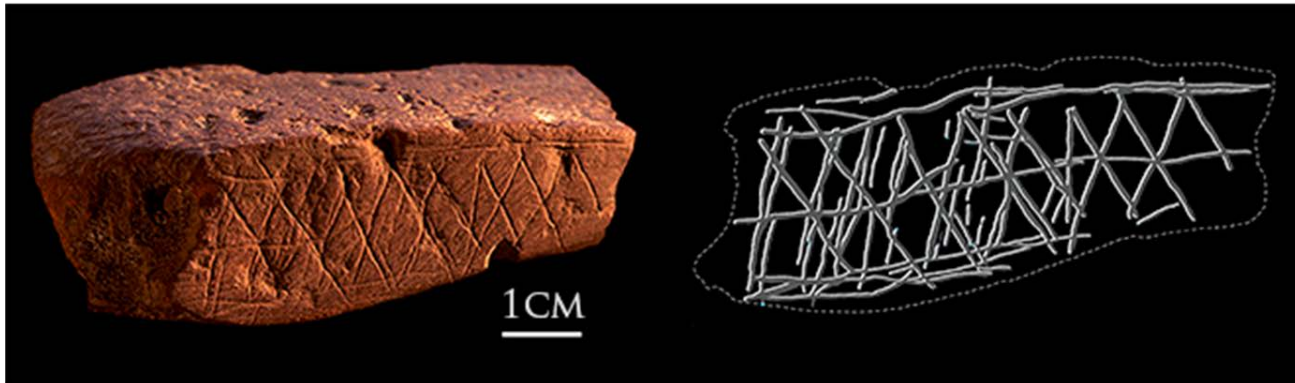


The potential, challenges and resources  
for improving teaching and learning in  
English Studies and in tertiary education

Priya Narismulu

Like other Arts and Social Sciences, English  
Studies can make intellectual, social and  
pedagogical contributions to transformation,  
despite its history.



**77 000 year old shard of engraved ochre**

The humanities: how to be, to be empowered, make fresh,  
independent and creative choices

Thich Nhat Hanh: the limits of knowledge

oral literature

A very different ex: teaching *The Heart of Redness* by Zakes Mda

What is to be done? openness, dialogue and sharing, no need for fear.

# Elephant in (and out of) the room:

- Matsinhe and Khumalo
- and Spivak's reconstruction in An **aesthetic education** in the era of globalization.

English Studies located between:

1. discourse analysis, verbal creativity, and critical thinking
2. the arts and the languages.

Important conjunctures,

especially under colonialism, apartheid (i.e., settler colonialism) and globalization (neo-imperial economic/cultural colonialism)

The challenge (problem and opportunity): English remains hegemonic while not the majority language, but increasingly the language of communication.

Interregnum

more responsible ways of delivering on teaching and learning need to occur.

The generation of education and research

Why not?

Despite col-apartheid, rich and diverse literatures of storytelling, drama, poetry, songs arose

part of the creativity that advanced the struggles for freedom, democracy, equality and redress,

to dev agency, sharing, freedom, equality, peace.

Some written/oral texts are/not in English, hybrid, in a combination of languages



How to improve the capacity of English Studies  
despite the double bind?

Back to the subject (incrementally empowered),

Subjectivity

Agency, through sensitivity, creativity, integrity.

Be unafraid, for what do we really have to lose?

Thank you

Priya Narismulu

Professor of English, School of Arts, HC, UKZN

Email: [narismulug@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:narismulug@ukzn.ac.za)