



## Second Year English Test

May 2014

Name.....

An old photo from the early 1930s reveals secrets hidden in its details... perhaps a tale of murder, kidnapping and sacrifice.

Watch the video, (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bzw8qdXCep8>) then write about what you think is the story behind this photo. What is the terrifying secret ?



## Read this text.

There was once a young potter who dug clay from the bottom of his garden. It was a beautiful blue clay which, when taken to low temperatures, turned a delightful salmon pink. But even at low temperatures it tended to crack, indeed it cracked abominably when it was chalk-hard. This, the young potter said to himself, is the result of some impurity in the clay. He therefore washed it and passed it through a potter's lawn; it cracked worse than ever. He made it even more pure; it became still worse. It took him some time to realise that the clay needed to be not pure but impure; by adding fine sand he cured it.

This was not the end of his troubles. He had no kiln, he longed for a kiln and when he finally got a kiln he was so excited that he acted recklessly. Having no pyrometer he used Seger cones to measure the temperature. Unfortunately he placed them so badly that they collapsed when he shut the door of the kiln. Impatient and undeterred he went on firing, judging the temperature by eye. After a time it got rather hot. The next morning it was still very hot.

Now, that kiln was packed to the roof with pottery of all kinds and our young potter could not wait to see what had become of it. He decided that it had cooled down enough and flung open the doors. A blast of hot air came out and took off his eyebrows. This worried him a bit; what worried him more was that the kiln was empty.

When eventually he was able to look carefully, he found that all his wares had melted and fallen to the floor of the kiln and lay there like a nasty pudding of dirty glass.

The clay he was using was of a kind that would turn into what is called triple silicate of iron; it liquefies at a comparatively low temperature.

*Morals:*

*1 Remember that purity does not always produce strength.*

*2 Don't be impatient. Take a sample of your clay to a high temperature before risking anything of value in the furnace.*

## What do these words mean ? Give your answer in french.

Clay .....

Bottom of his garden .....

Low temperature .....

Firing .....

Cool down .....

Took off his eyebrows .....

All his wares had melted .....

His kiln was empty .....

Purity does not always produce strength .....

Sample .....

Furnace .....