



There used to be an empty chair at the back of my class, but now a new boy called Ahmet is sitting in it. He's nine years old (just like me), but he's very strange. He never talks and never smiles and doesn't like sweets - not even lemon sherbets, which are my favourite!

But then I learned the truth: Ahmet really isn't very strange at all. He's a refugee who's run away from a War. A real one. With bombs and fires and bullies that hurt people. And the more I find out about him, the more I want to help.

That's where my best friends Josie, Michael and Tom come in. Because you see, together we've come up with a plan. . .

1) Look at the front cover: What do you think the story is about?

**The story is about a lonely boy and he is new to the school and sits alone at the back of the class. The lightning on his bag and the star suggest he will do well in the end. (2 marks)**

2) Read the blurb. Clarify what a refugee is. **A refugee is someone who is forced to leave their country because of war, natural disaster or persecution by the authorities of that country. (2 mark)**

3) What impression do you get of the character Ahmet from the blurb? **That he may be frightened because of his experiences, he is sad because he doesn't speak or smile. It is also possible that he is shy. (2 mark)**

4) What do you think the plan could be that they have come up with?

**Any answer that includes the three friends coming up with a plan that helps Ahmet learn the language, make friends, start to speak and smile and generally be happy and part of life at the school and the community.**