

YEAR 7 'REFUGEE BOY' KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

Summary

Refugee Boy explores The Impact of War on Individuals and Families through Alem and Mr. Kelo's struggles during the Eritrean-Ethiopian War. Alem experiences isolation, discrimination, and dehumanization due to the war and only begins to find healing because of the support of the good people around him.

refugee boy
benjamin
zephaniah

Key Words

Loss
Separation
Immigration
Refugee
Hope
Discrimination



Key Characters

1	Alem	Alem Kelo, the novel's protagonist, is a young Ethiopian boy who escapes violence in his homeland to seek refuge in England.
2	Kelo	Mr. Kelo is Alem's father.
3	Fitzgerald	Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald are Alem's foster parents in England.
4	Ruth	Ruth is Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald's daughter.
5	Sheila	Sheila, Alem's social worker, assists him in navigating the complex asylum-seeking process in England.
6	Mariam	Mariam, a woman from the refugee council, communicates with Alem in Ethiopian.
7	Pamela	Pamela, another woman from the refugee council, supports Alem in his quest for asylum and arranges a hearing to determine his status.
8	Robert	Robert, Alem's school friend, is known for his smoking habit and becomes an integral part of Alem's life in England.
9	Sweeney	Sweeney is a bully at Alem's care home.

Key Terminology - Term Definition

Refugee A person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution, or natural disaster.

Asylum The protection granted by a state to someone who has left their home country as a political refugee.

Identity The fact of being who or what a person or thing is.

Conflict A serious disagreement or argument, typically a protracted one.

Ally One that is associated with another as a helper; a person or group that provides assistance and support in an ongoing effort, activity, or struggle.

Barrister A person called to the bar and entitled to practise as an advocate, particularly in the higher courts.

Protest A statement or action expressing disapproval of or objection to something.