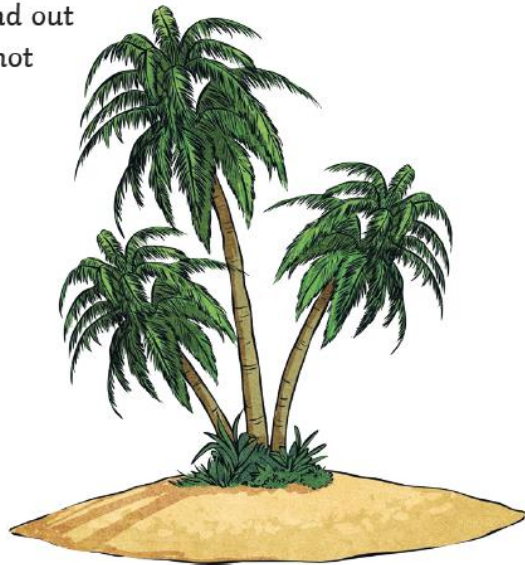


The Town of Egarim

9 Surrounded by glittering pools of fresh water, the town
20 of Egarim stood alone in the vast desert. Tall palm trees
28 lined the streets and small, sand-coloured houses sat
40 dotted in groups. In front of one house sat a small cart
47 that was piled high with colourful fruits.

58 Even the sun, who usually acted so cruelly to anyone
69 who tried to cross the desert, had taken pity on Egarim
77 and had bathed it in a soft, gentle light.

86 To the four weary travellers who were approaching the
95 border, the town looked like a miracle. However, they
100 were about to find out
104 that in Egarim, not
107 everything is as
109 it seems.



Quick Questions



1. How many travellers were approaching Egarim?



2. Find and copy one word which means the same as **tired**.



3. Would you like to visit the town of Egarim? Explain your answer.



4. **...not everything is as it seems.**

Why do you think that the author has chosen to end the text in this way?
