

The Neo-Babylonian Empire

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Summary

This book is about the rise and fall of the Babylonian Empire.

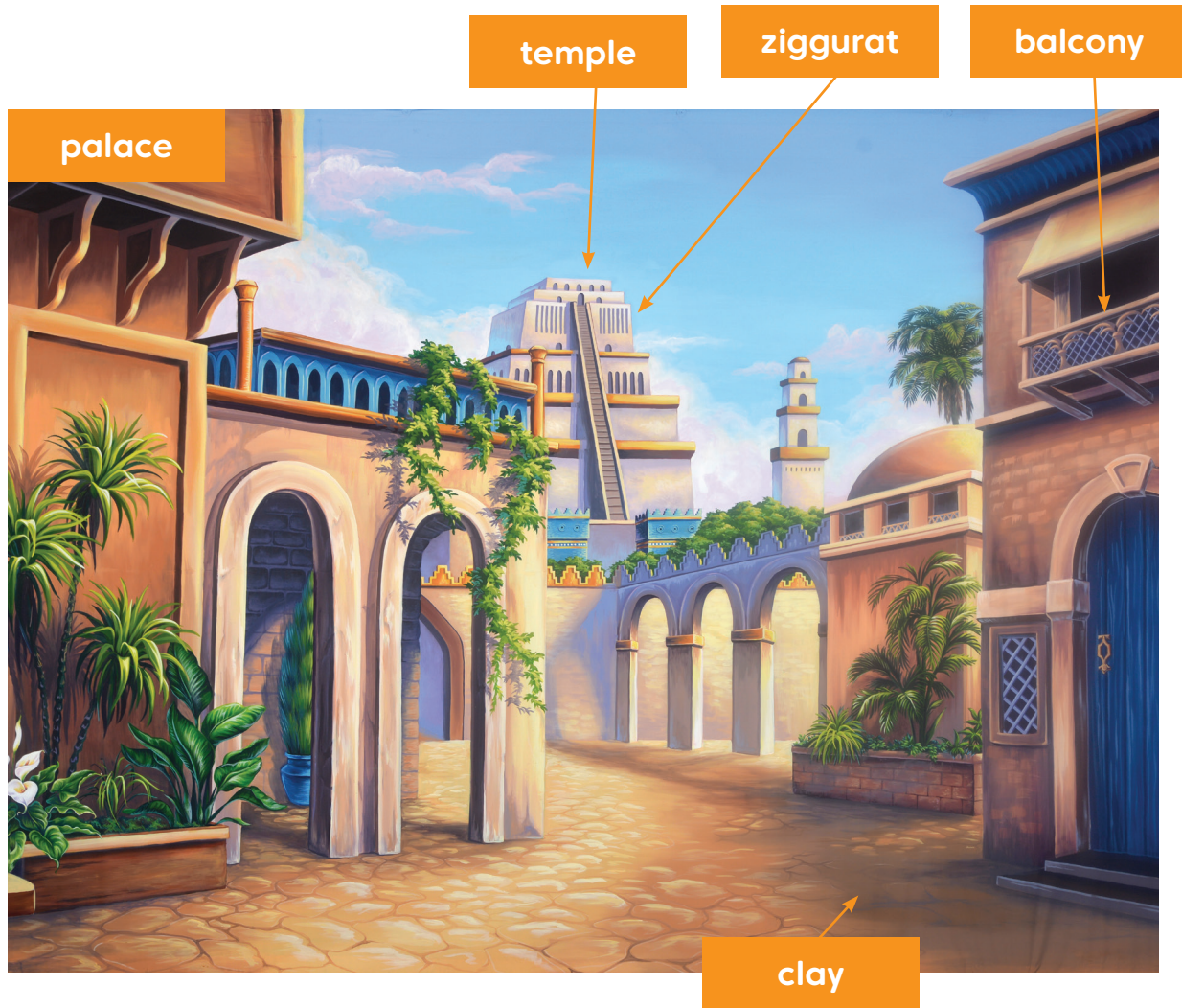
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Before Reading

Think Ahead

Look at the picture and answer the questions.



1. Where do kings and queens often live?
2. What kind of temple is in the illustration above?
3. What is an area up high that a person can stand called?
4. What was used to make roads in the city of Babylon?

Vocabulary

A Read and match.

1.



•

• a. balcony

2.



•

• b. battle

3.



•

• c. goddess

4.



•

• d. dirty

5.



•

• e. priest

6.



•

• f. ziggurat

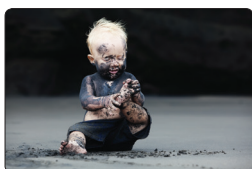
7.



•

• g. garbage

8.



•

• h. capture

B Write the word for each definition.

code

ancient

conquer

empire

faraway

1. _____ to take control of a country or defeat people in a war
2. _____ a group of countries ruled by one person or government
3. _____ a set of rules and laws
4. _____ very old
5. _____ very far; in the distance

C Choose the word that means about the same as the underlined words.

1. The extensive group of countries of Babylon ruled the lands that are now Turkey, Syria, Iraq, and Iran.
 a. empire b. palace c. battle d. kingdom
2. The Ishtar Gate is named after the female god Ishtar.
 a. slave b. emperor c. goddess d. priest
3. Nebuchadnezzar built large homes, bridges, and other things.
 a. balconies b. ziggurats c. temples d. palaces
4. According to an old story, Nebuchadnezzar built the Hanging Gardens for one of his wives.
 a. record b. book c. legend d. code

Comprehension

A Match the pictures with the correct sentences.

- a. In 626 BC, Nabopolassar took control in Babylon.
- b. The Ishtar Gate was built with special blue stones.
- c. Farms around Babylon grew things that the people needed.



1. _____



2. _____



3. _____

B Choose the best answer.

1. Before Nabopolassar, who controlled the city of Babylon?
 - a. The Turks
 - b. The Iranians
 - c. The Assyrians
 - d. The Romans
2. How did the city leaders “clean” the streets of Babylon?
 - a. With large brooms
 - b. With slaves
 - c. By punishing people who littered
 - d. By covering them with clay
3. To whom did Babylon eventually fall, ending the Neo-Babylonian Empire?
 - a. Amel Merodach
 - b. Cyrus the Great
 - c. Marduk
 - d. Nabonidus

C Choose the correct phrase for each picture. One (1) choice will not be used.

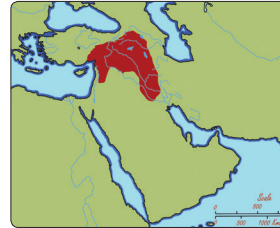
- a. A map of the Assyrian Empire
- b. A man called "Evil Merodach"
- c. The conquering Babylonian army
- d. Thousands of Jewish people moving to Babylon
- e. The tomb of Cyrus the Great in modern-day Iran



1. _____



2. _____



3. _____



4. _____

D Read each sentence. Write "T" if it is true or "F" if it is false.

1. _____ The Neo-Babylonian Empire fell around 600 BC.
2. _____ Conquered people were usually moved from their land to keep them in fear.
3. _____ The temple at the top of the Babylonian ziggurat was dedicated to the goddess Ishtar.
4. _____ Nebuchadnezzar was king for 43 years.
5. _____ At one time, a child led the Babylonian Empire.

E Complete the sentences with the correct words.

1. Nebopolassar led the Babylonians in several _____ against the Assyrians.
battles conquers
2. The temple of Marduk was located atop the huge _____ in the middle of the city.
ziggurat balcony
3. The Hanging Gardens were built to remind Nebuchadnezzar's wife of her _____ home.
temple faraway
4. The leaders "cleaned" the _____ streets of Babylon by covering them with clay.
dirty garbage
5. Nabonidus was made king after the _____ Marduk caused some trouble.
slave priest

F Number the events in order from 1=first to 5=last.

- a. _____ Cyrus the Great captured Babylon.
- b. _____ Amel Merodach ruled Babylon for three years.
- c. _____ Nebuchadnezzar became the most famous king of the Neo-Babylonian Empire.
- d. _____ Nabonidus and Belshazzar led Babylon for 14 years.
- e. _____ Nabopolassar defeated the Assyrians and grew the Babylonian Empire.

Think About It

A Look in the reader to write the answers to the following 5-W questions.

Who?	What?	When?	Where?	Why?
_____ was tired of living under Assyrian rule and led the Babylonian people in war.	During his 43 years as king, Nebuchadnezzar built palaces, _____, and more!	The Assyrian Empire came to an end around _____ when Babylon returned to power.	Nebuchadnezzar dreamed of making _____ a great and beautiful city.	Nebuchadnezzar expanded the empire and made Babylon one of the greatest _____.

B Complete the sentences below with your own ideas.

From this book, I learned _____

_____.

Before I read this book, I knew _____

_____.

Now I also know _____

_____.