

CHAPTER  
**4**

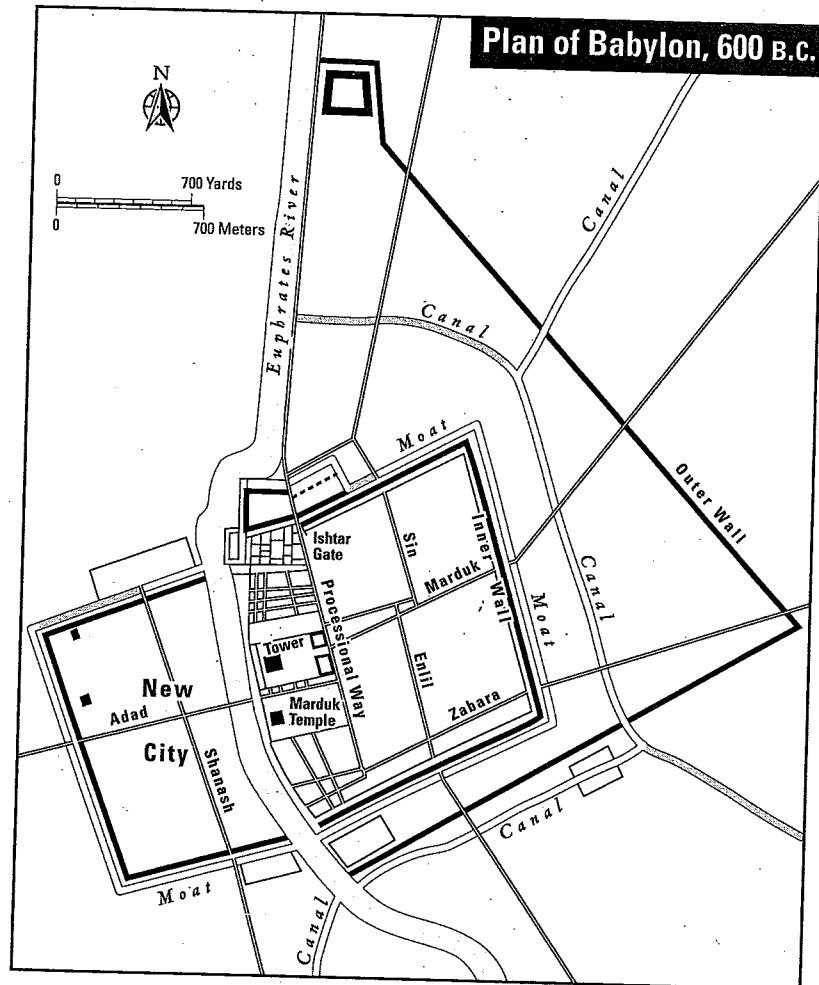
Section 2

GEOGRAPHY APPLICATION: PLACE *Babylon*

*Directions: Read the paragraphs below and study the map carefully. Then answer the questions that follow.*

Chaldean King Nebuchadnezzar rebuilt the city of Babylon around 600 B.C., after defeating the mighty Assyrians. He restored the city as the center of his new empire 1,000 years after the death of Hammurabi, the former king of ancient Babylon. All of Babylon, however, was not luxury and splendor. The houses of Babylon were huddled closely together on top of uneven ground. Houses were often built and rebuilt on top of each other without a fresh foundation. In addition, Babylon did not have an adequate garbage removal system. People simply tossed their trash onto the street, creating many social and physical problems. Nevertheless, Babylon provided a variety of unique

sites, such as the stone and wooden bridge that crossed the ancient Euphrates River. Most other cities simply used a collection of boats. Nebuchadnezzar also constructed a new temple and palace buildings, complete with the paved Processional Way. Nebuchadnezzar took special care when building the defenses for his city. He built a double row of walls reputed to be 150 feet thick, with towers 90 feet high stretching along the perimeter. At the time, Babylon was the largest city in the world. It covered an area of almost 2,500 acres—area equal to nearly 2,470 football fields.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

### Interpreting Text and Visuals

1. How many yards long is the city? \_\_\_\_\_

2. What is the name of the street that cuts through the center of the city and outside the city follows the Euphrates River? \_\_\_\_\_

3. What area of Babylon does not enjoy the protection of the double wall defenses? \_\_\_\_\_

4. What advantages and disadvantages would a bridge give the people of Babylon as opposed to a collection of boats? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Identify the three bodies of water found in Babylon.

Explain what uses these three types of water might have had, including benefits and any potential problems with them. \_\_\_\_\_

6. Identify the several defenses the illustration shows for Babylon. \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the use for each of the defenses of the city. \_\_\_\_\_