## Petra

The ruins of the ancient city of Petra are located in southwest Jordan. It was part of the overland trade route that joined Arabia to the Mediterranean Sea. In the 400s B.C., the Nabateans became powerful in Petra. The city was very prosperous during their rule, and people cut many houses and tombs into the cliffs. In A.D. 106, the Romans took control of Petra. It was abandoned sometime after 1189. It was unknown to most of the world until a Swiss explorer named Johann Burckhardt rediscovered it in 1812.

Excavations in 1958 and the following years have increased our knowledge of Petra. Archaeologists have found an elaborate water system that included dams, water channels, and ceramic pipes. This water system allowed for gardens and orchards, as well as water for homes and pools, in the middle of a dry area.

People usually come to the ruins through a narrow gorge known as the Siq. One of the first things you see when you enter Petra from this direction is the Khaznah, or Treasury, which is a large tomb. Another very well-known monument cut from the rock is Al-Dayr, the Monastery. While many of the popular monuments were carved from the red sandstone cliffs, other buildings that are being excavated were free-standing. In 1985, Petra was designated a UNESCO World Heritage site; in 2007, it was voted one of the New 7 Wonders of the World.

Follow these instructions to draw Petra on the next page like the picture shown below:

- Decide if you want to draw the right half of the picture or the left half of the picture and draw it in one of the first two grids. You can draw both if you'd like.
- Now, using a blank grid from the back of the book, try drawing the whole picture.


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## Questions

1. Which picture shows Petra? Circle it.

2. Which picture shows the Empire State Building? Circle it.

3. Which picture shows the Burj Khalifa? Circle it.

4. Which picture shows Teotihuacan? Circle it.

5. Which picture shows the Mausoleum of Halicarnassus? Circle it.



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## Answer Key

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