**IV. Alexander: Why So Great?**

1. Philip of Macedonia
* **Macedonia –**
* They considered themselves to be Greek but Greeks considered them to be uncivilized
* **Philip of Macedonia –**
* Was able to lead the Macedonians to victories over the Greeks
* Aided by the decline of Greek polis after the Peloponnesian War
* Wanted to defeat the Persian Empire
* Was assassinated at his daughter’s wedding
1. Alexander Takes Control
* Aristotle’s student
* Military genius who created one of the largest empires in world history

* Proclaims himself king following the death of his father – Only 20
* Within ten years he was able to conquer the Persian Empire
* The following three years Alexander creates an empire that stretches from Greece to India
* **323 BC –**
* His large empire crumbles within a week after his death – Results in decades long civil war
1. Alexander’s Legacy
* The size of Alexander’s Empire is not what was important
* Didn’t last after his death
* Greeks established cities in new lands and spread both their culture and adopted the culture of others
* Helped to create a world where civilizations would interact and grow because of the accomplishments of other civilizations
* Precursor to globalization
* Greeks liked these new religions because it offered immortality in an afterlife
* Greek religions had no afterlife
* Alexander also liked that Egyptians worshiped their rulers like gods
1. Science & Technology
* **Ptolemy –**
* **“Bill Buckner of the Ancient Greeks”**
* Both are known for their major mistakes instead of their major accomplishments
1. Ptolemy’s Major Accomplishments
* 1)
* 2)