

Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

Genetics Basics

Like any other language, the language of genetics consists of symbols and rules for using these symbols. When a trait being studied shows dominance, it is observed in nature much more frequently than if it is a recessive form. The capitalized letter of the dominant form becomes its symbol (Ex. R stands for round seeds). For the recessive form of the same trait (the recessive allele); the symbol remains the same but not capitalized (Ex. r stands for wrinkled seeds). Complete the following chart using these rules of symbols.

Dominant: tall stems, colored seed coats, green pods, yellow seeds, round seeds, axial flowers

Recessive: short stems, white seed coats, yellow pods, green seeds, wrinkled seeds, terminal flowers

	height	coats	pods	seed color	shape	flower
Dominant:						
Recessive:						

1. Using the symbols from the above chart, write the allele symbols that would be present in the following homozygotes. Next, indicate whether they are going to express the dominant or recessive trait.

tall stemmed plants	_____	_____
terminal flowers	_____	_____
white seed coats	_____	_____
yellow seeds	_____	_____
yellow pods	_____	_____

2. Write the symbols for the following heterozygotes

yellow seeded peas	_____	colored seed coats	_____
axial flowers	_____	round seeds	_____
green podded peas	_____	tall stemmed plants	_____

3. The following letters represent pairs of alleles. Indicate whether each pair is a heterozygote or homozygote. Then indicate whether each pair would display a dominant or recessive phenotype.

a. DD _____	b. Dd _____
c. ss _____	d. Rr _____
e. Tt _____	f. yy _____