Symbols

Vocabulary terms you need to know: dominant, recessive, phenotype, genotype, homozygous, heterozygous, allele

Introduction: Like any language, the language of genetics consists of symbols and rules for using those symbols. For the purposes of this unit, a symbol for an allele consists of one letter. When a trait shows dominance, the capitalized first letter of the dominant form of the trait becomes its symbol. (In humans, for example, free ear lobes are the dominant form of earlobe shape. Attached ear lobes are recessive. Thus, F stands for free ear lobes.) For the recessive form of the same trait, the symbol remains the same but is not capitalized. (Thus f stands for attached ear lobes.)

The table below shows the forms of the traits Mendel studied in peas:

	stem height	coat color	pod color	seed color	seed shape	flower position
Dominant form	tall	colored	green	yellow	round	axial
Recessive form	short	white	yellow	green	wrinkled	terminal

1. Underline the first letter of each dominant form in the table above. Using the rules described above, complete the following chart of the traits Gregor Mendel studied in pea plants.

	stem height	coat color	pod color	seed color	seed shape	flower position
Dominant allele symbol						
Recessive allele symbol						

2. Using the symbols from the table above, write the genotypes that would be present in the following phenotypes if they were all homozygous. Next, indicate whether they are dominant or recessive:

phenotype	genotype	Dom. or Rec.?		
tall stemmed plants				
terminal flower position				
white seed coat				
wrinkled seed shape				
yellow pod color				
yellow seed color				

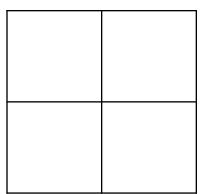
3. Write the genotype of the following hybrids (also called heterozygotes).

phenotype	genotype
yellow seeded peas	
axial flowers	
green podded peas	
colored seed coats	
round seeds	
tall stemmed seeds	

4. Use	Punnett squares	o predict the	genotypic and	phenotypic ratios	of the following	parental cross.
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Tt x Tt

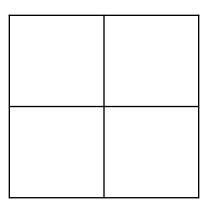
Genotypic ratio:



Phenotypic ratio:

5. Use Punnett squares to predict the genotypic and phenotypic ratios of the following parental cross.

homozygous wrinkled seeds x heterozygous round seeds



Genotypic ratio:

Phenotypic ratio: