

Important Vocabulary

2 Types of Alleles (versions of a trait)

1. Dominant = gets expressed when present, represented using a capital letter

• always gets listed first

Ex: Purple flower color in pea plants is dominant over white "P"

2. Recessive = gets expressed only when BOTH alleles are recessive, written using a lowercase letter

Ex: White flower color in pea plants "p"

Remember you have 2 alleles for every trait!

PP = purple flower

Pp = purple flower

pp = white flower

Gene Expression

1. Genotype = the alleles inherited (the letters)

Ex: PP, Pp, pp

• Homozygous = two of the SAME alleles (PP or pp)

• Heterozygous = one recessive and one dominant allele, alleles are DIFFERENT (Pp)

2. Phenotype = the way an organism looks, its physical appearance

Ex: Purple, white