

## Multiple Allele

*So far we have studied traits or genes that are coded for by just two alleles. Like in rabbits, there was one allele for brown hair color and one allele for white hair. However, some traits are coded for by more than two alleles. One of these is blood type in humans. This is a violation of Mendel's Principle of unit characteristics.*

*In humans, there are four types of blood; type A, type B, type AB, and type O. The alleles A and B are codominant to each other and the O allele is recessive to both A and B alleles. So a person with the genotype AA or AO will have A **type** of blood.*

- a. What possible genotypes will produce B type of blood? \_\_\_\_\_
- b. What is the only genotype that will produce O type of blood? \_\_\_\_\_
- c. What is the only genotype that will produce AB type of blood? \_\_\_\_\_

### 1. You are blood type O and you marry a person with blood type AB.

- a. Complete a Punnett square for this cross.
- b. List the possible blood types (phenotypes) of your offspring. \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. In the 1950's, a young woman sued film star/director Charlie Chaplin for parental support of her illegitimate child. Charlie Chaplin's blood type was already on record as type AB. The mother of the child had type A and her son had type O blood.

- a. Complete a Punnett square for the possible cross of Charlie and the mother.
- b. The judge ruled in favor of the mother and ordered Charlie Chaplin to pay child support costs of the child. Was the judge correct in his decision based on blood typing evidence? Explain why or why not. *\*refer to any Punnett squares to support your answer.*

### 3. Suppose a newborn baby was accidentally mixed up in the hospital. In an effort to determine the parents of the baby, the blood types of the baby and two sets of parents were determined. Baby 1 had type O Mrs. Brown had type B Mr. Brown had type AB Mrs. Smith had type B Mr. Smith had type B.

- a. Draw Punnett squares for each couple (you may need to do more than 1 square/ couple)
- b. To which parents does baby #1 belong? Why? *Hint you may want to refer to your Punnett squares.*