## **CONCEPT:** EPISTASIS

• <b>Epistasis</b> : inheritance pattern where gene's	s product the p	phenotype of	gene.
Epistasis in Blood Type			
●H protein serves as a "" mole	cule attaching A & B molecules	to the surfaces of blood cells.	
□ The recessive allele (h) encodes an	form that does	connect A or B to blood ce	lls.
$\hfill\Box$ Even if a person has alleles $I^A$ or $I^B$ , they w	ill have type blood if they	are homozygous recessive (hh)	).

 $\Box$  In other words, one gene (\_\_\_\_\_) affects the expression of another gene ( $I^A$  or  $I^B$ ).

**EXAMPLE:** Epistasis causes inconsistencies in inheritance of blood-types.

Genotype	Phenotype	
I <sup>A</sup> _ & H_	H protein  Type blood	
I <sup>A</sup> _ & hh	A H protein  Type blood  **Epistasis: one gene (H gene) affects expression of another gene (I <sup>A</sup> gene).	

PRACTICE: Which of the following statements best describes epistasis?

- a) An allele that changes the genotype of another allele.
- b) A gene that changes the genotype of another gene.
- c) A gene that controls or masks the expression of another gene.
- d) A gene that changes the genotype of the organism.
- e) None of the above.