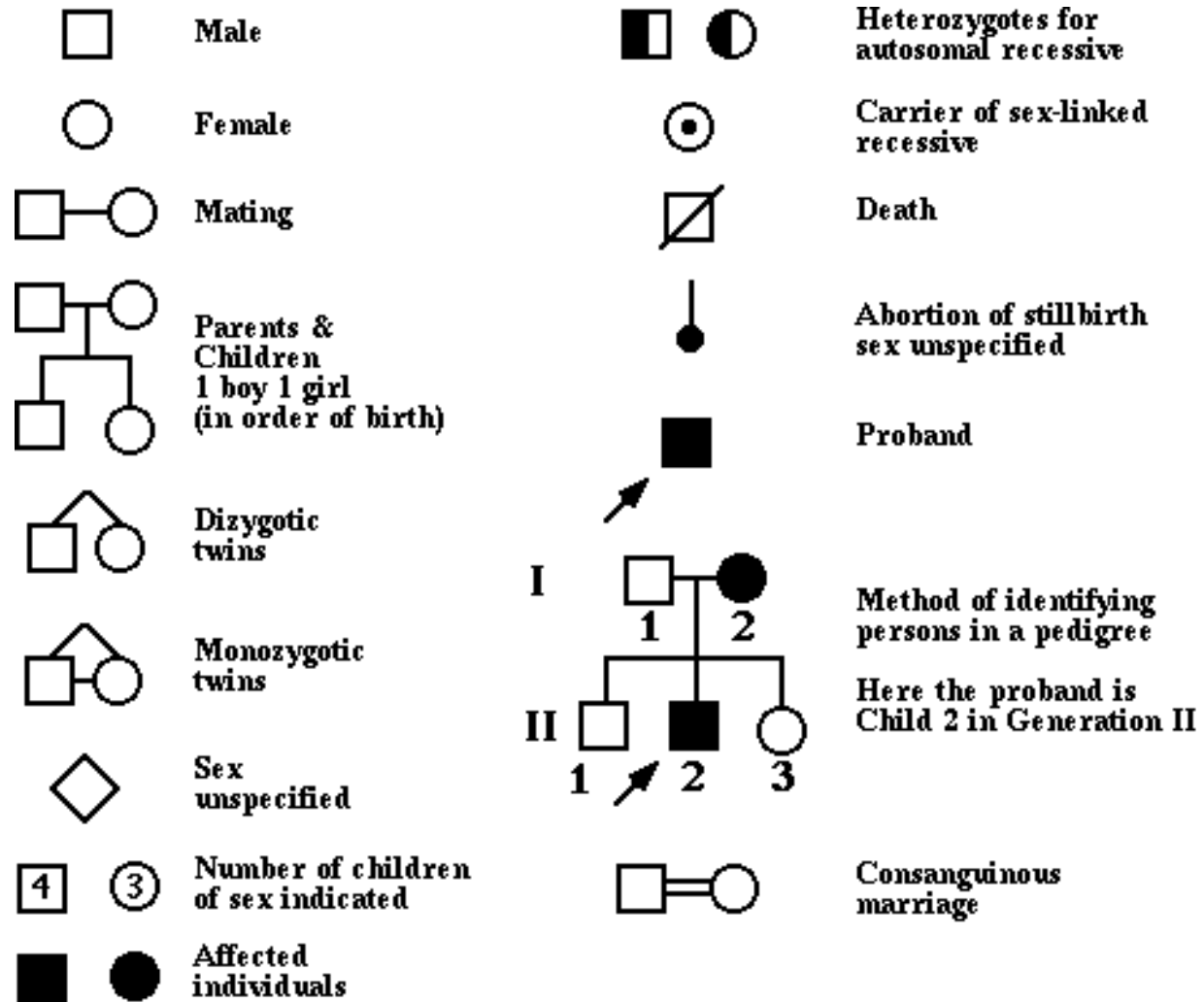


Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Pedigree Construction Notes-key

When human geneticists first began to publish family studies, they used a variety of symbols and conventions. Now there are agreed upon standards for the construction of pedigrees.



Remember:

1. Males are always represented by square symbols, females with circular symbols.
2. A line drawn between a square and a circle represents a mating of that male and female.
3. Two lines drawn between a square and a circle indicate a consanguineous mating, the two individuals are related, usually second cousins or closer relatives.
4. When possible, the square should be placed on the left and the circle on the right of the mating line.

5. Generations are connected by a **vertical line** extending down from the mating line to the next generation.
6. Children of a mating are connected to a **horizontal** line, called the **sibship** line, by short vertical lines.
7. The children of a sibship are always listed in **order of birth**, the oldest being on the **left**.
8. Sometimes to simplify a pedigree only one parent is shown, the other is **omitted**. This neither signifies parthenogenic development nor does it signify divinely inspired conception, it merely means the parent left out is not from the family being studied and is genotypically **homozygous normal** for the trait being studied.
9. Normal individuals are represented by an **open square** or **circle**, depending upon the gender, and affected individuals by a solid square or circle.
10. Each generation is numbered to the **left** of the sibship line with **Roman Numerals**.
11. Individuals in each generation are numbered sequentially, beginning on the left, with **Arabic Numerals**. For example, the third individual in the second generation would be identified as individual **II-3**.