Shapes of molecules (Level 2) exam tips

• Use molypods, plastercine & toothpicks or balloons etc to help you to visualise the shapes in 3D.

• Make and rotate interactive models of molecules.

• Use the many online animations to reinforce your visual images of the different shapes.

• Recognise and state the number of regions (areas) of electron repulsion around a central atom.

• Learn the names of the shapes and their angles.

• Learn them, no excuses!

• Determining the shape around the central atom.

• No, you aren’t required to draw the lone pairs or valence electrons when drawing SHAPES of molecules.

• Yes, an alternative accepted word for trigonal is triangular.

Don’t be daft

A single or double or triple bond are all ONE REGION of negative charge.

The trigonal planar shape is VERY, VERY different to trigonal pyramidal shape.

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