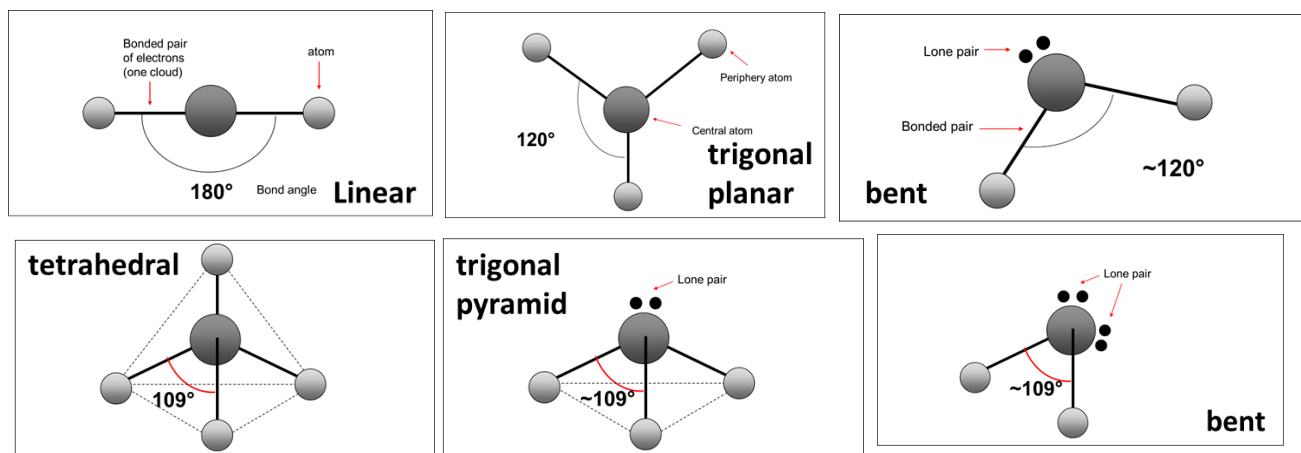


Chemistry 2.4 AS 91164 Bonding and Energy

Molecular Solids – Predicting Shapes and Bond Angles

Success Criteria:

- Compare the shape and bond angles in different molecules



Steps to answering shape and bond angle questions – for each molecule

1. Draw a Lewis diagram of a molecule, if one is not already given in the question
2. State: [molecule] is a [linear/bent/trigonal planar/tetrahedral/trigonal pyramid] shape
3. State: There are [2/3/4] regions of electron clouds around the central [x] atom.
4. State: These regions repel for maximum separation into a [linear/trigonal planar/tetrahedral] shape with a bond angle of approximately [$180^\circ/120^\circ/109^\circ$]
5. State: There are [2/3/4] bonding regions and [0/1/2] lone pairs.
6. State: Therefore, the final shape of the [molecule] is [linear/bent/trigonal planar/tetrahedral/trigonal pyramid] resulting in a bond angle of [$180^\circ/120^\circ/109^\circ$]

Sample NCEA Style Question:

Boron and phosphorus both bond with three fluorine to form BF_3 and PF_3 . However, the molecules have different shapes and bond angles. Explain why these molecules have different shapes and bond angles

