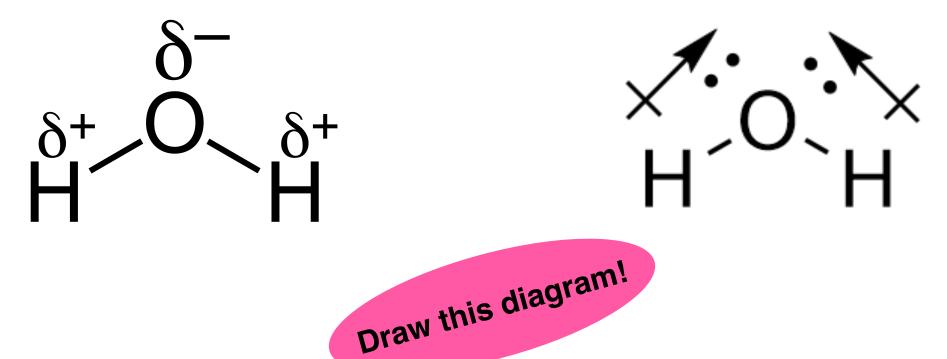
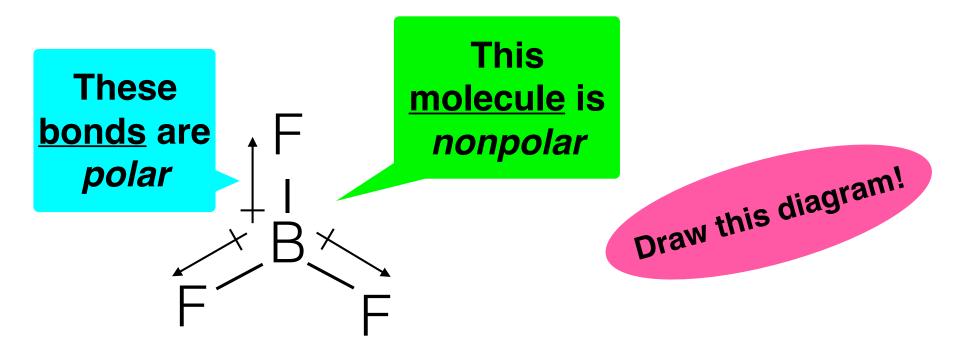
Molecular Polarity

Polar molecules have an uneven charge distribution ("dipole" or "dipole moment") due to the arrangement of atoms or electrons ("asymmetrical").



Molecular Polarity

Nonpolar molecules are symmetrical with all bond polarities canceling each other (no dipole).



*Note: Nonpolar molecules *can* have polar *bonds*.

Is the molecule polar? First check symmetry, then ask:

- 1. Are there lone pairs of e- on the central atom?
- 2. Is the central atom bonded to different elements?

If yes to <u>either</u> question, then the molecule is **polar**.