

Which of the following diatomic molecules is the most polar:

1. Br₂
2. HCl
3. H₂
4. HBr

Correct Answer: 2.

Comments to the instructor: Br₂ and H₂ are nonpolar molecules; the electronegativity difference between H and Cl is greater than the electronegativity difference between H and Br.

Which of the following molecules is nonpolar:

1. CH₃Cl
2. CO
3. H₂O
4. CH₄

Correct Answer: 4.

Comments to the instructor: Have students draw Lewis structures, first. The symmetry of CH₄ makes it the only nonpolar molecule among the choices given.

Of the following species: NF₃, BF₃, CO₂, CH₃OH, which pair is polar:

1. NF₃, BF₃
2. BF₃, CO₂
3. NF₃, CH₃OH
4. CO₂, CH₃OH

Correct Answer: 3.

Comments to the instructor: Have students draw Lewis structures, first. NF_3 is polar, BF_3 is nonpolar. Both BF_3 and CO_2 are nonpolar. Both NF_3 and CH_3OH are polar. CO_2 is nonpolar, and CH_3OH is polar.