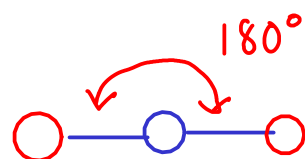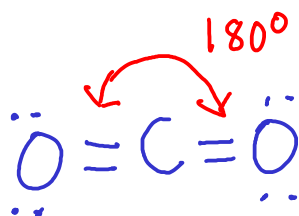# PREDICTING MOLECULAR SHAPE

The shape of simple molecules (and parts of larger molecules) can be easily predicted using the VSEPR model

VSEPR = Valence Shell Electron Pair Repulsion Model

- Each BOND or LONE PAIR OF ELECTRONS around an atom will try to move itself as far away from other bonds or lone pairs as possible!

$180°$

$$\ddot{O} = C = \ddot{O}$$

$180°$

O —— O —— O

For the two red circles to be farthest apart, they must be 180 degrees apart

LINEAR MOLECULES

ANY diatomic (two-atom) molecule is linear, but only some three-atom molecules are!