

Nonmetal	C	N	O	Ne	Si	P	S	Ar
Formula of Compound	CF ₄	NF ₃	OF ₂	No compound	SiF ₄	PF ₃	SF ₂	No compound

5. Some binary compounds that form between fluorine and various nonmetals are listed in the table above. A student examines the data in the table and poses the following hypothesis: the number of F atoms that will bond to a nonmetal is always equal to 8 minus the number of valence electrons in the nonmetal atom.
- (a) Based on the student's hypothesis, what should be the formula of the compound that forms between chlorine and fluorine?
- (c) Two possible geometric shapes for the ClF₃ molecule are trigonal planar and T-shaped. The student does some research and learns that the molecule has a dipole moment. Which of the two shapes is consistent with the fact that the ClF₃ molecule has a dipole moment? Justify your answer in terms of bond polarity and molecular structure.

In an attempt to resolve the existence of the ClF₃ molecule with the hypothesis stated above, the student researches the compounds that form between halogens and fluorine, and assembles the following list.

Halogen	Formula(s)
F	F ₂
Cl	
Br	BrF, BrF ₃ , BrF ₅
I	IF, IF ₃ , IF ₅ , IF ₇

- (d) Based on concepts of atomic structure and periodicity, propose a modification to the student's previous hypothesis to account for the compounds that form between halogens and fluorine.