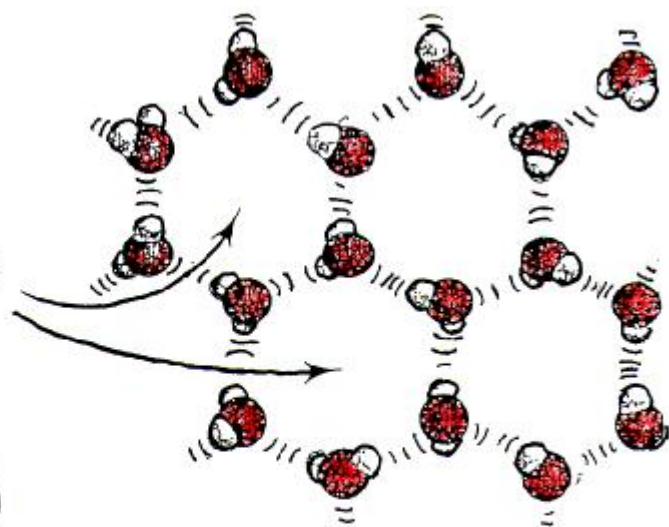


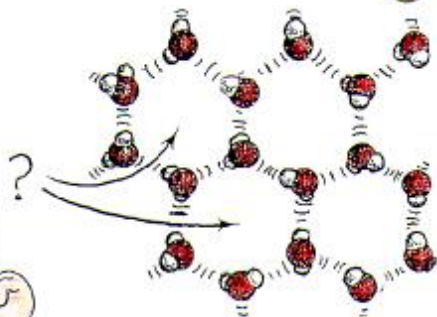
NEXT-TIME QUESTION

Water molecules in ice link together to form an open-spaced structure. The open pockets in the structure are what makes ice less dense than water, which is why ice floats on water. To be sure you interpret this correctly, answer this: What's inside the open pockets?



- a) Air.
- b) Water vapor.
- c) Nothing.

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Answer: c, nothing

If there were air in the open spaces, the illustration would have to show the molecules of air, such as O_2 and N_2 , which are comparable in size to water molecules. Any water vapor would be seen as unassociated water molecules spaced relatively far apart. Neither of these are shown in the illustration. Instead, the open pockets represent nothing but empty space—void.



It's not always easy thinking of nothing at all.

Hewitt
Drewitt!