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• Describe two physical properties of liquid or solid water that distinguishes it from 'normal' liquids or solids.

Marks 3

The solid is less dense than the liquid.

The density of the liquid can decrease on cooling.

The melting and boiling points are significantly higher than would be predicted from extrapolation of the other group 16 dihydrides.

It is capable of dissolving ionic solids to a larger extent than most other liquids.

Molecules with multiple resonance structures are said to be "resonance stabilised".
Briefly explain the origin of this extra stability in terms of electron waves and molecular orbitals.

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The presence of resonance Lewis structures indicates the presence of molecular orbitals that extend over more than a pair of atoms. This greater delocalisation of electrons produces lower energies and hence increased stabilisation of the molecule.