- Atoms are the simplest form of matter. An atom consists of a single particle of matter.
- Molecules are made up of two or more atoms joined together by chemical bonds. In molecules the atoms chemically joined together may all be the same or they may be different.
- Elements are substances made up of only one type of atom. Some elements exist as atoms and some exist as molecules.
- Compounds are substances made up of two or more different elements joined together by chemical bonds. They must therefore be made up of molecules.

**Activity 1: Classify the Particles**

The following diagrams represent either atoms or molecules of elements or compounds. Draw up a table with the following headings: diagram, atom of element, molecule of element, atom of compound, molecule of compound.

Copy each diagram into the diagram column of your table, then classify each by placing a tick in the column that correctly names what it represents.