Structural Isomers

- Compounds can have identical molecular formulas, but have different properties due to different arrangement of atoms and bonds
- Consider C₃H₈O
 - One compound has a boiling point of 82.5°C and another compound has a boiling point of 7.4°C. The first compound must have an atom arrangement that allows for strong intermolecular forces (ie. hydrogen bonding).

- <u>Structural isomers</u> are any two or more compounds that have the <u>same</u> molecular formula but <u>different structural formulas</u>
 - This means the molecule has the same number and type of elements/atoms (ie. same molecular formula), but can be drawn in different ways (ie. different structural formulas)

EXAMPLE: Draw and name the three structural isomers for the alkane molecule C5H12.