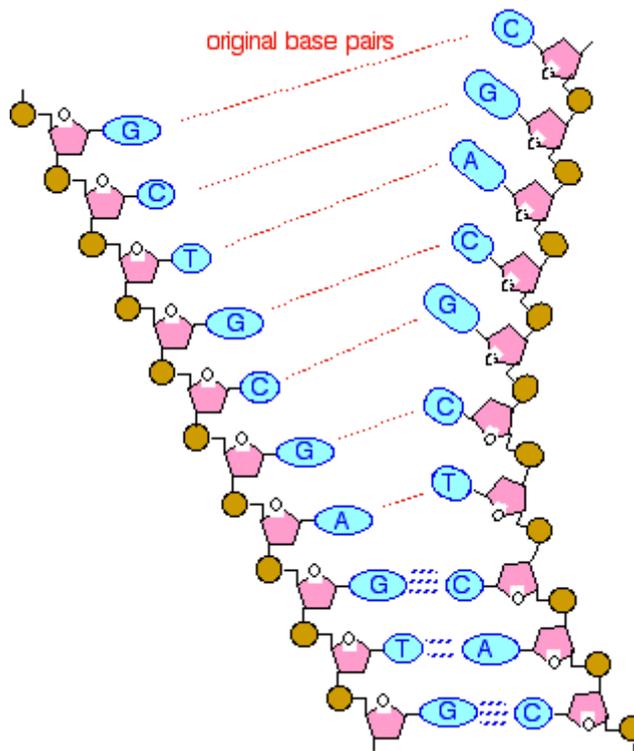


Chemguide – questions

DNA: REPLICATION

1. DNA is copied in a process known as *semi-conservative replication*. This is a complicated process, and all this question does is to look at it in very general terms suitable for 16 – 18 year old chemistry students.

The Chemguide page shows that the double helix starts by being pulled apart into two strands:



Remember that the red dotted lines aren't bonds – they just visually tie together the two bases which were joined in the original DNA.

Explain in brief outline why two new DNA molecules are formed which are exact copies of the original DNA, and explain what is meant by *semi-conservative* replication.