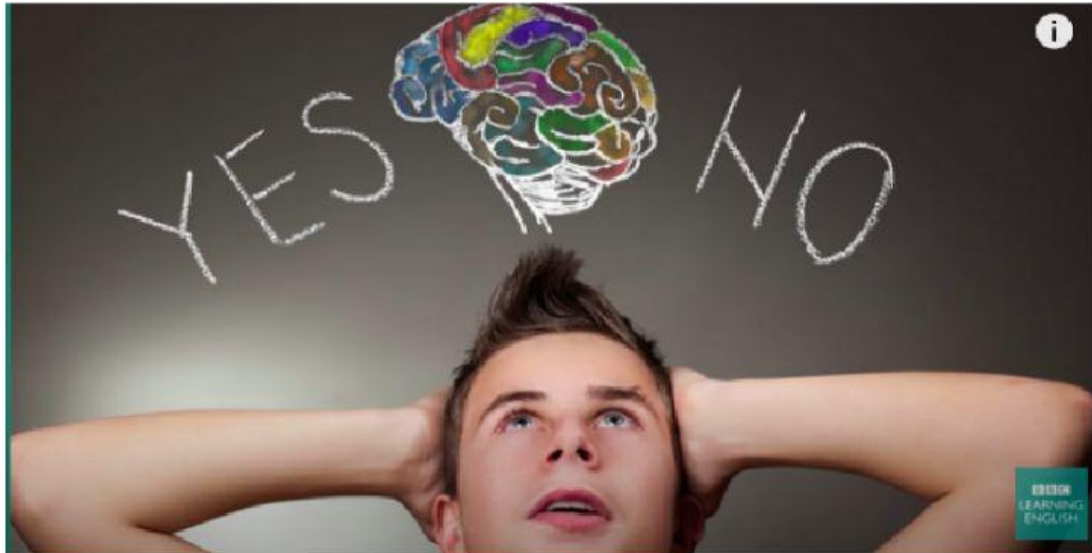


The teenage brain

Listen to the dialogue between Neal and Rob and complete the audio-transcript.



N: What do you _____ of your teenage years?

R: oh, I was a _____. I was _____ to my parents, I always _____ late, never did my homework, _____ with the wrong people and made _____ bad decisions.

How about you Neal ?

N: Well, much the same _____. People always said that about teenagers _____?

They go through a period when they're out of _____ and _____ badly. But apparently is not their _____. At least not directly.

R: So, whose fault is it?

N: Our _____ apparently. Teenagers brains are still _____ in areas that control _____. Which could _____ that you can't _____ them for _____ the way they _____. Before we _____ more let's have our question, there are always been teenagers but when was the word teenager first _____ to _____ age group? Was it ...

- a. the 1920s
- b. the 2030s
- c. the 2950s

Any ideas are up?

R: Well I think, it _____ the time of rock and roll. So would it made the 1050s, that's my _____.

N: I'll have the _____ later in the program. Sara Jane Blakemore from university college London _____ in the workings of the brain _____ the teen age brain. Recently she was a guest on the _____ radio program "The Life Scientific". She _____ that the understanding of the brain is _____ developing _____ the teenage years is _____ new.

When did she say the first _____ came out ?

S: The first research showing that the human brain undergoes this very _____ and _____ development throughout _____ into the _____. The first papers were _____ during the late _____. Before that and for example when I was at university the _____ on the text books – the vast majority of brain development goes on _____ the first years of _____ and nothing _____ changes after mid-_____. That dogma is completely _____.

N: So, when did the research into the teenage brain _____?

R: _____ it wasn't until the late 1990s. This is when she said the first papers were _____.

N: Papers in this _____ means the result of _____ research _____ are published and she didn't actually talked about teenagers _____?

R: No, that's right. She talked about the period of _____. This name "adolescence" is the period when _____ is developing from a _____ into an _____ but it more or less is the same as the teenage years.

R: What I found _____ is that before the _____ people's believed something different about the way our brain develops:

N: Yes, professor Blackmore said that the dogma has been that our brain has mostly _____ developed in _____ childhood. Long before adolescence. "Dogma" is a word used to describe a _____ belief that people are _____ to accept as true. So our brains are still developing much later than it was _____ thought.

N: What does this tell us about teenage behavior? Of particular interest is an important part of the brain called the Pre Frontal Cortex. Here is professor Blakemore again. What excuse can se give to teenagers who don't get their homework done in time ?

S: The Pre Frontal Cortex is the part of the brain just _____ the forehead and it's involved in a high _____ cognitive tasks such as decision _____, planning. We know that this reach is undergoing very very much during the adolescence and so in _____ of the _____ we place on teenagers, to for example plan their homework may be too much given that we know that the _____ of the brain that _____ involve in planning is not _____ yet.

N: So The Pre Frontal Cortex is important in _____ tasks. What are those Rob ?

R: A cognitive task is one that requires thinking and _____ such as making _____ and _____. It doesn't happen _____ you have to think about it. So in the adolescence years this part of the brain it is not _____ developed. Now the adjective form here the noun we had earlier "adolescence".

N: So now this gives a good excuse for not doing your _____.

R: I wish I'd know that. I used to say that I left the homework on the bus or that the dog had _____ it.

R: Now I can say, sorry sir my brain isn't develop enough for the cognitive task of _____ my homework.

N: Yes, I'm sure that would work. Before we wrap up Time to get the answer to this week's question. I asked –"when was the word teenager first used to refer to the 13 to 19 age group. Was it . . .

- a. The 1920s
- b. The 1030s
- c. The 1950s

So you said C. the 1950s; and the answer is actually _____. Now a quick review . . .