

Listen to the conversation between a student (A) and a professor (B) about the teenage brain. Complete the gap with One/number word.

B: Come in!

A: Hi, PROFESSOR DIAZ. Can I ask you a few questions?

B: Oh hi PEDRO. Sure.

A: I know you study teenagers and I'm writing a paper on them. Can you tell me a little bit about the teenage brain?

B: Well, a teenager's brain is still 1. _____.

A: Really?

B: Yes, people stop growing physically around 2. _____ or 16 years old, but our brains continue to grow until we're around 3. _____ years old.

A: I didn't know that. So, do all teenagers around the world act the same for this reason?

B: Well, typical teenagers have many feelings. One minute they are sad and the next minute they are 4. _____. Their feelings change very quickly and they think and react to problems and situations very differently from adults.

A: Why does this 5. _____?

B: Scientists found that teenagers use the amygdala part of the brain more than adults do. The amygdala is important for feelings. But after the brain stops growing, adults use another part of the brain, the frontal cortex, more.

A: So, when people use their frontal cortex more, their feelings don't change 6. _____?

B: Yes, exactly.

A: Interesting. So, teenagers are all the same because their brain is still growing.

B: Not exactly. Teenagers all go through the same thing as they grow, but teenagers can also be very 7. _____ from each other.

A: How?

B: Well, in my opinion, there are 8. _____ main things that make one teenager different from another teenager.

A: What are those?

B: Family, friends, experiences-- or the things that happen to them--and things like TV, magazines, the Internet, and other kinds of 9. _____. These four things can impact or change a teenager's life greatly.

A: That makes sense. I had a good friend when I was a 10. _____. We did everything together, but now she is very different from me. She started doing things with other kids and they got into some 11. _____ things.

B: Yes. Many things can change a teenager. This means it's important to watch teenagers closely to make sure their friends are good people and that they have 12. _____ experiences.

A: Teenagers have a 13. _____ time with all of these changes. What can adults do to help them during these years?

B: Tell them that their feelings are 14. _____ for a teenager. It is how we grow up. Tell them to write their feelings in a diary or a journal. This may help them 15. _____ their feelings more. Also, tell them to talk with their parents and their family, the people that love them.

A: Well, thank you so much, PROFESSOR DIAZ. This is very helpful.

B: It's my 16. _____. Any time.