

# Extending Paragraph

From:  
Noname  
2nd Paragraph

The fact is: Teens' brains' prefrontal cortexes are not fully developed. B.J. Casey, a brain scientist at Cornell University, conducts experiments so she can better understand biological patterns in teenagers. Her research shows how the "adolescent brain is locked in a tug-of-war. On one side is the logical pull of the prefrontal cortex (the master planner). On the other is the impulsive pull of the ventral striatum (the reward system). Casey says that teens can make good decisions, but, "in the heat of the moment, the reward center can win over the master planner. This can lead to poor decisions" (The Teenage Brain, Mascarelli). As Casey said, teens can make good decisions, but due to the ventral striatum's (reward center's) high activity levels between the ages of 13 and 17, bad decisions come much easier to teens. For example, if a teenager (at the age of, say, 16) was driving and s/he received a text message, the "tug-of-war" that leads to the decision on whether s/he should pick up the phone would be won by the ventral striatum, or reward center, rather than the prefrontal cortex, or master planner because the impulsive pull of the reward center is stronger at this age. Once the teen picked up the phone, it would be much easier to wreck. If the government raised the legal driving age to 18, the age scientists say the prefrontal cortex can win the "tug-of-war," everyone would be much safer on the road.

Student  
in us states

→ student authorizes with appositive phrase

extending

↑ Student explains significance of evidence to