A. All the following connectors are taken from your INFORMAL emails to your friends. These connectors are far too formal for this register. What are the far more informal alternatives for each connector, make any other changes needed to make these sentences more friendly?

1. Moreover, most of the professors are really good i expressing themselves in English.

2. Furthermore, I think that getting familiar with specific situation as writing an academic paper….

3. Firstly…. Secondly…… Lastly……

4. thus enabling each student to build his/her own career, which can be more focused on the legal or on the economic level according to personal ambitions and competences

5. in order to properly understand all the other classes.

6. In addition, the train service isn’t efficient at all.

7. However, I am very optimistic and happy to be here!

8. although I have to study, I always manage to join these parties …

9. Nevertheless, the first week I sped there was quite stimulating

10. I have never talked to you about my Master. Thus let me talk about that!

11. For what concerns the course,

B. Look at the following sentences from your work, try to rephrase them in a less formal way (there may be some mistakes in syntax/lexis – you can correct these as well!):

1. …in such a way that from one hand students have the possibility to work in an international dimension both in public and private organisations, and on the other hand to acquire a more specific knowledge…..

2. So I was pressed for time and did not manage to carry out my intentions.

3. Tell me more about your free time and your work.

4. Today I’m going to inform you about my Master program and life in Trento

5. the possibility to interact with them is one of the things that I love the most of the course.

6. it could offer me the most suitable bases to reach these aims.

7. I am very happy that you successfully graduated in law.

8. This degree seems really suitable for my aspirations.

9. As you may already know,,,,

10. This can obviously be a very important added value at this time….

11. Thank you very much for your email of the 4th October.

12. It offers an infinity of cultural and entertainment initiatives but the education provided in Trento is higher grade.

13. As I anticipated you the last time we met, I’m currently involved in a 2-year Mater’s Degree in Trento.

14. so I’m currently the new guy of a top floor apartment … whose current tenants are a 30-year old lawyer and her noisy little cat.

C. And some of you sign off in a rather formal way,

Which of these are too formal?

Best wishes,

It was a pleasure to write to you. Let me know when you are available for a proper chat on Skype.

I look forward to hearing from you

Best regards

D. In the following phrases, there is incorrect use of lexis, can you correct the sentences?

1. I think that in this way we are prepared to work in team with people that we don’t know / we are supposed to do many teamworks. / work in groups

2. My classmates are very cordial…

3. Have you solved your last problems with……

4. My room mates have already brought me to almost all the bars that, in their opinion, I needed to know to be able to pass a decent Saturday night.

5. But till now I can’t really complain

6. Sometimes I wish my parents grew me up in a foreign country; I would be perfectly bilingual free of effort

7. So, as you can infer this degree course is very challenging

8. We spent a lot of time together and had the opportunity to know each other.

9. my fellow students come all over the world and they are very well prepared

10. I do hope I’ll improve my English and learn many things as long as international relations are concerned

11. we spent some good time together already and it seems we’ll be a good work team

12. there are so many assignments we have to do in a group

13. …how it has developed throughout history, what is the current situation and which are the perspective for the future.

E. You all have problems with the difference between ‘as’ and ‘like’. In the following sentences say whether as and like are used correctly or not.

1. getting familiar with specific situation as writing an academic paper…

2. concerned with different matters as law, political science, economics…

3. I felt as in my first day of school

4. I’ll stop see myself always like a “beginner

F. And a few more colligations you keep getting wrong

1. I’m very impressed by the highly challenging approach to the study which makes me more and more fascinated by what I’m studying.

2. Hope to hearing from you

3. What I miss of last year is that I can’t speak English every day…

4. I was afraid not to have the proper skills and knowledge to attend these courses

5. I have already known my classmates and they are great!

6. they have not only helped me with the University bureaucracy, but also have introduced me other people.

7. please remember me to look for some more uncultured friends

8. public institutions provide all the necessary tools to its students.

9. the only thing you should care of is the unconceivable rudeness of young bikers,

10. I’m sure that by focusing on a high specialised, academic English , I’ll stop see myself always like a beginner!

11. Everybody seems to be polite and helpful, willing to new friendships and to know new people.

12. Do you think to come here in Italy during winter?

13. I hope to live an abroad experience.

14. I hope you are happy of your master as I am.

15. Professors ask for our opinion and they consider us as graduated students able to put in practice what we learned before.

16. can now be satisfied of how I manage to live alone and to carry on with my studies.

17. But let me stop to talk about me! What about you?

Some of you DID use less formal languages such as:

so far,

I’ve tons of things to tell you

Hey XXXX, how are you doing?

Figure out how to

By the way,

Anyway,….

And trust me, this is great: nothing to do with…..