Academic writing style - answers

The sentences below are all written in an informal style. Change them to make them sound more formal and scholarly.

Informal 1. There’s been quite a lot of interest in how background sounds like music affect your ability to concentrate.

**Formal 1.** There has been considerable interest in how background sounds such as music affect an individual’s ability to concentrate.

Informal 2. But, about 45,000 new cases of breast cancer are found every year, making it a really common cancer in the U.K.

**Formal 2.** However, approximately 45,000 new cases of breast cancer are diagnosed every year, making it the most common form of cancer in the UK.

Informal 3. And I will take a look at the effect of different grassland management practices.

**Formal 3.** In addition, the effect of different grassland management practices will be examined.


**Formal 4.** Jones (2009) notes that a significant number of problems arose soon after the nursing best practice guidelines were implemented.

Informal 5. By the way, export figures won’t get better until the economy gets better.

**5.** Incidentally, export figures are unlikely to improve until the economy recovers.
Academic writing style - answers

Informal 6. In the past 5 years, they did studies which have looked at the effect of CBT on depression.

Formal 6. In the past 5 years, a number of studies have examined the effect of CBT on depression.

Less formal treatment

Most people in the community are changing their minds about experimenting on poor animals. Recently, people in Australia are saying they don’t want animals to be used in research - likewise in the UK and the USA. But you won’t see this admitted in the new code, which gives hardly any protection to animals - just like the last version of the code. Everyone thinks that self-regulation of the animal research community is a joke - otherwise we would see the number of animals used in research drop instead of get larger. The new code also doesn’t talk about the secrecy surrounding the use of animals in so-called research. The really evil purpose of the code is to back the interests of the industry rather than to look after the wellbeing of animals.

ANSWER: Original (more formal)

Community views on animal experimentation are changing. In recent years, the opposition to animal use in research has increased in Australia (and also in the UK and the USA). This is not reflected in the new code, which provides as little protection to animals as the previous version. It is our view that self-regulation of the animal research community is too weak and not being properly complied with - otherwise we would see the number of animals used in research and teaching decline rather than increase - and that the new code still does not address the utter lack of transparency and secrecy around the use of animals in research. The true purpose of the code is to legitimise the interests of the industry rather than the purported support and safeguard of animal wellbeing.

References
