Emily's social interactions were usually successful, but she had her share of 'human failings'. While Emily was generally socially successful, there was a suggestion that she could at times be a little confrontational and attract trouble. It is possible too that Emily's increasing desire over the course of the study to be socially adventurous, and meet and mix with a diverse range of people, may have unintentionally upset others at times, given her self-proclaimed tendency to "ditch" friends and acquaintances in favour of new ones, and to "float" between groups (even though she felt her friends understood and didn’t mind). Another concern, perhaps, was that she found it difficult to spend time alone, feeling the world was colourless without her friends around and constant interaction possibilities.

In general, then, despite one or two hiccoughs, her friendships were a positive force in Emily’s life. However, it may be that an equally social student, but one less interested in learning and/or a less capable learner, might have difficulties, if they allowed their friendships to distract them from learning. As it was, Emily admitted that her liking for talking a lot sometimes got in the way of her learning. But, offsetting this tendency to become distracted and talk to friends in class, Emily also had a strong sense of future goals and broader horizons, and parents who were aware of who she was mixing with and who helped her maintain a positive balance in her life.