The reading asserts that a group of marine animals named agnostid is extinct million years ago. Although their fossils are found in the rocks around the world, the paleontologists are not sure about the way they devour, but being free-swimming predators, seafloor dwellers that utilize the dead organisms or bacteria, or parasites are three hypothesizes which is expressed for the way the agnostids fed. The lecturer, however, finds these ideas dubious and casts doubt on the reasons proposed by the reading passage.

The author argues that there is a possibility that like many primitive arthropods, the agnostids were free-swimming predators, that used smaller animals as prey. Conversely, the lecturer brings up the idea that since vision has a primary role in this kind of animals, they must have large well-developed eyes. However, the agnostids had tiny poor-developed eyes, and some of them were even blind. In addition, they did not have any other organ to help them chase the prey

Furthermore, the reading passage holds the view that the agnostides may have been seafloor dwellers, which lived by scavenging dead organisms. On the contrary, the professor underlines the fact that seafloor dwellers do not have any organ to help them move fast; therefore, they move very slowly and they lived in small geographic areas. However, the agnostids occupied multiple geographic areas that reject this theory.

 Finally, the reading asserts that another theory is that the agnostids were parasites. In contrast, the speaker dismisses this issue due to the fact that if the population of the parasites exceeds the limit they will kill off the hosts they live on; thereby, the population of parasites cannot be significant. However, the vast size of the agnostids’ population rule out this theory.

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