The reading asserts that pterosaurs which were winged reptiles did not have the capability of powered flight. The lecturer, finds this idea dubious and casts doubt on the reasons proposed by the reading passage.

The author argues that like other modern reptiles probably pterosaurs were cold-blooded too. Therefore, they did not have enough energy to make powered flight feasible. Conversely, the lecturer brings up the idea that based on the fossils record they had dense hair and furs on their skins, so like other warm-blooded animals they could have maintained high temperature in their body, and supply sufficient energy for powered flight.

Furthermore, the reading passage holds the view that since pterosaurs were so large like giraffe probably they were heavy too, so they could not flap their wings fast to linger in the air. On the contrary, the professor underlies the fact that although pterosaurs were big, they had hollow bones, therefore they were not heavy, so they could have kept their selves in the air and could have been airborne.

Finally, the reading asserts that based on fossilized bones pterosaurs ‘back leg muscles were weak, so they could not run fast or jump in order to take off from the ground in the same way that birds do. In contrast, the speaker dismissed the issue due to the fact that perhaps they did not take off like birds and there were differences between them. The birds push off with two limbs, on the other hand pterosaurs could have used all their limbs in order to depart. Moreover, the researches have shown that the biggest of pterosaurs could also depart without any problems. Therefore, they all could have been capable of powered flight.

21 minutes elapsed

284 words