Both the lecture and the reading are mainly about the ability to fly in Pterosaurs which were ancient reptiles. Although the author is of the opinion that they could not fly, the lecture is opposed to this idea; therefore, the lecture provided three rationales against the reading’s main points

First of all, according to the reading, considering that the latest reptiles are cold-blooded, the Pterosaurs are anticipated that they might have been cold-blood too. Indeed, the metabolism of warm-blooded types such as vertebrates which can fly is many times more than cold-blooded ones. In fact, powered flight needs a high rate of metabolism and energy; consequently, the Pterosaurs couldn’t have been able to fly. However, the lecturer disputes this point. They mention that the recent discovered Pterosaurs’ fossils indicate that the Pterosaurs had some features such as dense fur covering which is a fundamental trait of warm-blooded animals; therefore, they not only were warm-blooded, but also they might have had high metabolism too.

Secondly, the reading states that because the Pterosaurs were so huge and heavy that could not move their wing fast enough, they were not adapted for flying; nevertheless, the lecture refutes this argument. They argue that even though the Pterosaurs had big size, they were not as heavy as enough to be deprived of flying. In fact, their size was due to their hollow and light-weight bones; therefore, this reason cannot be justifiable.

Finally, the reading claims that observing the Pterosaurs fossils shows that they had small and weak leg which could not help them to take of such as other flying animals. On the other hand, the lecture believes that there is a fundamental distinction between the Pterosaurs and other flying animals such as birds. Birds have just two limbs which help them to walk and fly, but the Pterosaurs such as bats have four limbs. In fact, they used all four limbs for their flying purpose.

Words: 320

Time: 35min