The reading asserts that there are several problems for astronauts for travelling to the Mars, and this would be a big challenge for them. The lecturer, however, finds the idea dubious and casts doubt on the reasons proposed by the reading passage.

First, the author mentions that the lack of supplies, like food, water and oxygen, is a major problem for the trip to the Mars and providing an extra space for carrying these is not practical. Conversely, the lecturer brings up the idea that astronauts can use a special method to cultivate plants in water rather that putting them in a soil. Thus, they can use their limited space to have these plants, which can also recycle water for them, and bring fresh air by decreasing the amount of carbon dioxide.

Furthermore, the passage holds the view that being in zero-gravity environment for a long time has negative effects on the human body, like some issues for muscles and bones. As a result, it is impossible to make the trip. On the contrary, the professor underlines the fact that we have professional astronauts who have practiced several months of being in zero-gravity situation, so they are more qualified to be chosen for the trip. Besides, they can use some techniques and excercises to overcome the isssue, and using vitamins and minerals is good for their body and bones.

Finally, the reading states that astronauts on the misson are exposed to a huge amount of radiation from the Sun's particles. Providing a shield to protect them is also a costly method and it augments the weight of the ship. In contrarst, the speaker dismisses the issue due to the fact that those radiations happen occasionally and they are not too much dangerous. Besides, astronauts may use a little space in the ship for being protected in the times which there is a high level of radiation. They can use a special monitoring system to detect when the radiations might increase and get dangerous.

time~ 20 mins