The main idea of both the lecture and passage is whether traveling to mars is feasible or not. Considering this, the author maintains that sending humans to Mars has several problems that the Moon mission did not. The professor, on the other hand, unequivocally challenges whatever contended in the reading by citing three scientific reasons.

First, both the author and the professor talk about the vital human needs-food and oxygen. As claimed by the passage, the trip to Mars will take much longer than the Moon mission- about two years.

Second of all, both the lecture and the professor discuss the zero-gravity environment of space. The passage goes on to mention that zero-gravity has many negative effects on the human body, namely decreased muscle and lower bone density.

The last point discussed in the passage has to do with the dangerous solar radiations. The author claims that building a shield in the spaceship to prevent these radiations is currently …