The passage and the lecture talk about the Marco Polo’s book and whether he has traveled to China as that he has claimed in his book or not. The passage believes that he never journeyed to China. In contrast, the lecturer disagrees with the passage, and provides three reasons to refuse of the passages’ claim.

Firstly, the passage claims that there are many contradictions and difference in details of accounts of his journey, which were written in Latin, French and Italian. Critics believe his work was that of romance writer. However, the lecturer says that the first account was written by a romance writer, who told Polo’s story in French. Many years later, Polo wrote his story in Italian which translated to Latin, and then retranslated to Italian, while original account was lost. Lecturer believes that this explains difference between accounts.

Secondly, the passage states that many basic and well-known facts about China including Great wall of china or tea drinking are not mentioned in his book. Moreover, if he spent time in china, he could speak read or speak China. In contrast, the lecturer states that Polo spent most of his time in north, where drinking tea was not common. Moreover, it is possible that he never saw Great wall in West, and the Wall was in its finished version that exists today, many parts of them completed after Polo.

Thirdly, the passage points out that despite that he has claimed that he has been an intimate friend of one of famous ruler in China, his name is not mentioned in history books of China. Moreover, his assertion about bringing a Mongol princess to Persia has not been mentioned in any contemporary books so far. However, the lecture states that Polo did not need to speak Chinese, for he was provided with a Persian translator, who used to use Persian names to describe Chinese places, by the ruler, Kublai Khan. She adds that if Polo is absent in Chinese books, it is because of using different forms of name in Chinese or maybe he was not important enough to be mentioned by authors.

There has always been controversy over what values children should learn. Some people think that children should learn to be honest or helpful, while other believe that being well organized is value that children should learn at an early age. As far as, I am concerned, being honest is the most important value to share with a young child. My reasons are explained in the following paragraphs.

The first and foremost reason which is really worth mentioning is that being honest will make children happier. It is because they will able to have more friends. To explain more, people always like to make friends with honest ones. In other words, the more honest children are, the more friends they have. Having more friends will help children to be happier. It is because If children have more friends, they will have more fun. having happy spirit will prepare children for the future. As you know, happy people have more motivation for their lives. They battle with their problems and hardships better, and overcome their difficulties easier. Therefore, they are more successful. If children are happy, they will be successful in the future. As you can see, being honest gives children the chance to be happier and more successful in the future.

The second reason that deserves some words here is that being honest helps children to increase their self-confidence which helps them in the future. When children are honest, they feel good about themselves. It is because they are the best version of themselves. This creates a good feeling in children, resulting in increasing their self-confidence. As you know, being self-confidence is an important key for entering the job market. As a result, if children are confident, they will be able get a job in the future. The results of a survey conducted by Oxford university showed that 90 % of people who were working in well-known companies in all over the world, mentioned their high-self-confidence as an important factor in getting job positions in these companies. Therefore, if children learn to be honest at a young age, they will have more self-confidence, and will be more successful in the job market.

All in all, being honest is a values that should be taught to children. It is because they can benefit from being honest including boosting self-confidence and having a happy life.