*Saman Sotoudeh – TPO 43- Integrated Task*

The reading explains various theories about the way in which agnostids may have lived and behaved. The lecturer, however, casts doubts on all the mentioned reasons by the reading passage and finds the idea dubious.

First of all, the author argues the possibility of agnostids being free-swimming predators hunting smaller animals. Conversely, the lecturer brings up the idea that vision is a monumental characteristic of predators, and they are supposed to have well-developed eyes. But, agnostids have a poor vision, and as a result, cannot act as predators. Also, he asserts that there is no evidence of any special organisms which could help agnostids in preying smaller animals, which also weakens the possibility of agnostids being free-swimming predators.

Furthermore, the reading passage holds the view of agnostids being seafloor dwellers. On the contrary, the professor underlines the fact that seafloor dwellers cannot move so fast and too far and are generally slow creatures. Also, he asserts that seafloor dwellers stay in localized and small geographic areas. On the other hand, he mentions that agnostids spread across long distances and also move pretty fast and easy, which also brings us to the conclusion of rejecting the reading's statement.

Finally, the reading asserts the possibility of agnostids being parasites, living on and feeding of larger organisms such as fish. In contrast, the speaker dismisses this issue due to the fact that the parasites population is within a certain limit and is not large so that they would not be able to kill their host organism. On the other hand, the agnostids' population is large, which rules out this last view.

***Word Count: 268***

***Time: 20 Minutes***