Both the reading and the lecture talk about several beliefs about surprising behaviors of elephant. The reading mentions three beliefs of elephant behavior, which is completely different with the occasion in the lecture.

First, the reading mentions a belief that when elephants become a old and weak, they know that they are nearing the death and they will break away from their herds and go off alone to certain locations often found near bodies of water-which is called ” elephant graveyards” - to die alone. Such a situation is presented quite differently in the lecture. The lecture holds that elephants die near water is because when elephants get old enough, their tooth become worn down and they have difficulty chewing, they will look for softer vegetation that’s easier to eat. Softer vegetation is usually found near water.

Second, the reading claim that elephants have artistic ability, saying that they can be taught to hold a paintbrush in their trunk and use it to paint on a canvas. What is stated in the lecture again challenges this. The lecture harbors the idea that elephant using a paintbrush is just painting lines they have been trained to paint, because when elephants are trained to paint, a human trainer is stroking elephants ears whenever the elephant moves the paintbrush. Because their ears are very sensitive, they can remember certain patterns of paint brushstrokes and human trainer can encourage the elephant to repeat the brushstrokes by touch in its ears.

Third, the reading puts forward that elephants have a fear of mice, pointing out that elephants are more afraid of mice than of the much more dangerous animals with which elephants normally share an environment. The lecture however provides an alternative explanation in this point. The lecture asserts that elephants react fearfully to mice because mice are unfamiliar to them, and being cautious about unfamiliar animals is a natural distinct. And elephants that live in environment where mice are common, like elephants in the zoos, don’t react with fear to mice.