The author in the reading holds that burning mirror is just a myth, while the lecturer in the lecture expresses an opposite opinion, asserting that the claim is unconvincing.

To begin with, the author claims that the ancient Greeks had no capacity of owning so advanced technology. There was a big gap between the ships and the mirror. So, it’s impossible for them to burn ships, let alone have a good command of precise trajectory like parabolic curvature. However, the lecturer refutes that they did not need a large sheet. It could be combined with several small pieces. The Greek mathematician known the property of parabolic curvature.

Moreover, the author believes that it took long time to set fire. It’s impractical to let these ships unmoving. On the contrary, the lecture rebuts that the ship is made of various materials, not just wood. Owing to the special material likes pitch, the ships caught fire quickly. Judging by this the mirror could be very effective .

Finally, the author puts forward that the mirror did not have the same as the improvement of the existing weapons. In the ancient, they had mastered in the use of flaming arrows. So, they don’t need to invent the burning mirror. Instead, the lecturer resorts that roman was familiar with burning arrows. They had the ability to put out fire with flaming arrows easily. On the other hand, it is extremely hard to predict where the burning mirror would fire the ships because the sun’s say don’t reach.