In the reading, the writer discussed three explanations of whether animals play, while the reading gives these opinions, the professor debates with these opinions.

First of all, the writer in the passage claims that some animals, especially mammals, which can manage themselves effectively, tend to leave some energy behind every time they do actions, and To use up their surpluses energies, they have to do actions that can run up energies quickly, which is playing. In the lecture, however, the lecture holds the opinion that this theory contradicts an instance of one type of marine animal, seals. The speaker mentions that they had to spend days without any food and water, and after they are able to move again, they are surviving without any energy left, and they still do playing behaviors.

Secondly, the author of the passage believes that one of the reasons that animals play is because they see playing as an opportunity to train their hunting and escaping skills. The writer believes that by playing, animals can train for their real-life tasks. In the lecture, the professor debates the passage by giving an experiment. In the experiment, two groups of cats are isolated, while one group can play as they want, the other group can not play. However, after the experiment, the conclusion shows that there is no difference between these two groups.

The last viewpoint of the passage is that by playing with other group members, animals can strengthen their bond with them. In the lecture, the professor indicates an example of rats, which keep growing their brains and keep social activities although they have stopped to play.