The reading passage lists three explanations about why the humpback whales use stars to navigate, while the lecturer contradicts all those theories by his perspectives.

First of all, according to the professor, there may be no connection between high intelligence with the method to navigate. Some animals, such as ducks, tend to orientate by stars do not have high intelligence. The ducks just have the average intelligence, but they are born to regard stars as guider for the orientation. That’s to say, it is unconvincing to make a causal relationship between high intelligent and the way to orientate of humpback whales.

Moreover, the claim that due to the straight direction that humpback whales maintain and lack of land features in the ocean, they depend on stars to stay on track is unreasonable. It is true that animals need some external objects or forces to keep straight, but other than landmarks or stars, earth magnetic field is also one kind strong force these animals can rely on. Besides, scientists found that the humpback whales have biomagnetitie in their brains which encourage them to feel earth magnetic. Thus, relying on stars is not the only choice for the whale to keep straight.

Finally, as to the final reasons mentioned in the reading that the behavior of spy-hopping shows that the humpback whales are looking at the stars to find the direction. However, the professor says shakes are also used to observe floating straight for a long time, but the purpose of this behavior is to hunt rather that to get the information to navigation. Plus, the humpback whales sometimes show this behavior during the day while there are no stars. Consequently, the explanation for the function of spy-hopping in the reading is unwarranted.