



DIALD

March News Letter

Building English Knowledge **Fact-Opinion-Belief**

Blue Birthstone myths

The beautiful blue of the aquamarine gives the stone its name. It also influences the development of the stories built around much of the mythology, popular beliefs or assumptions, which has been spread about the enchanting blue slightly greenish crystal.

The double reference to blue (**aqua** - a shade of blue tinged with green and **marine** – the shade of blue pertaining to the sea) in the name of this stone is no accident. Because of its lovely blue color, aquamarine is most often associated with the sea, and because of this color association, many of the myths and legends linked to the stone have to do with water. The ancient Greeks believed that the aquamarine could protect sailors at sea from maritime disasters such as tropical storms, rogue waves, pirates, or even whale attacks. Archaeologists often find the stone carved into small statues of the god Poseidon, the "God of the Sea", whose main domain was the ocean. However, there is much evidence that through the ages sailors of many cultures and time periods wore aquamarine or slept with it under their pillow.

The Greeks were not the only culture to adorn aquamarine for their sailors. In Thailand, it was believed that wearing the stone could not only keep seasickness from over taking you, but that it could save you from drowning. Some stories, which began in ancient Babylon and spread across what it now the Middle East and Europe, associate aquamarine with mermaids. In some tales the stone is a particular treasure for the fishy maidens. In other stories the mermaid's tails either created, or are made of aquamarine.

Ancient doctors believed that a tonic created by dropping a piece of aquamarine into a cup of water could reverse the ill effects of poison. The stone was also thought to be particularly potent against ailments of the throat, stomach, and liver. Since earliest times the stone was thought to sooth anxiety when worn.

In New Age traditions aquamarine symbolizes security and safety, which makes it a popular gift for loved ones. It is supposed to be soothing to sensitive people and promote non-judgmental interactions and peace.

Adapted from Myths and legends about the March birthstone aquamarine by Renee MallettCulture

FIGURES OF SPEECH

-to make believe –

[pretending that what is not real is real]

Example:

She made believed that she was sick, but no one really thought she was ill at all.

เธอแสดงเหมือนเธอป่วย แต่ไม่มีใครคิดว่า เธอป่วยจริง ๆ เลย



-beat around the bush-

[Avoid saying what you mean, usually because it is uncomfortable]

Go ahead! Stop beating around the bush and tell her you have deeply-felt feeling for her.

ดำเนินการต่อและเลิกการหลีกเลี่ยงและบอกเธอว่าคุณมีความรู้สึกที่ลึกซึ้งสำหรับเธอ

Grammar Attack

Do you understand?

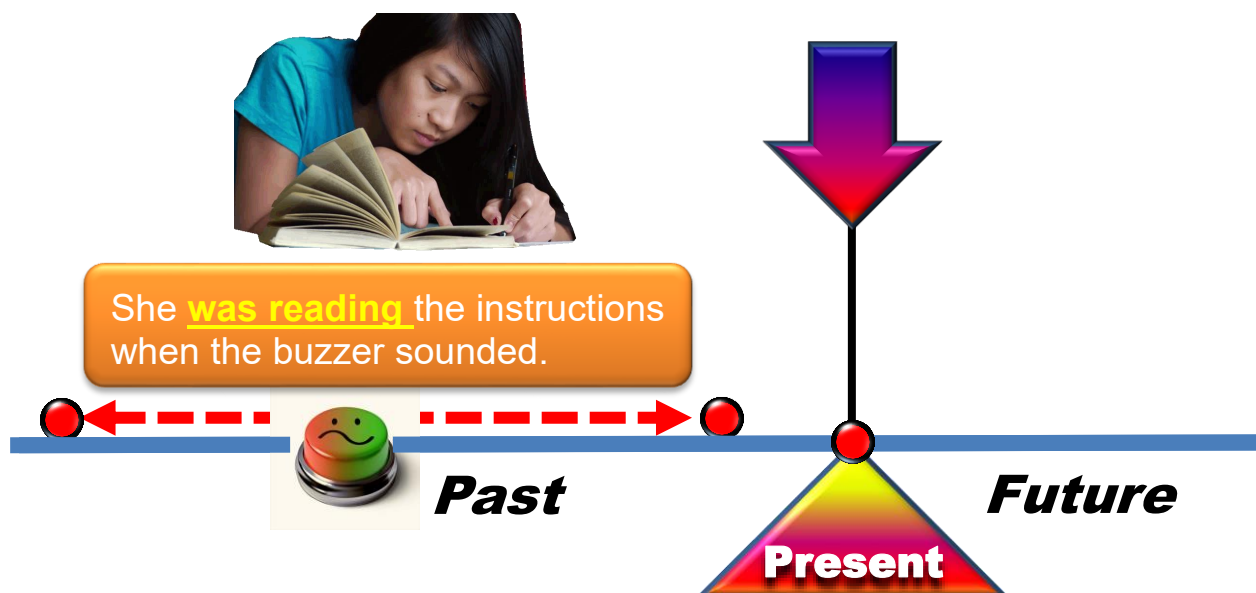
PAST CONTINUOUS

Establishing the Past Continuous Tense (*Past Progressive*)

Used for temporary actions that happened in the past.

Temporary actions that happened in the past

A completed activity during a period of time that another event was happening in the past.



Forming the Past Continuous

The **Past Continuous** is formed with the helping verb to be (was, were) and the "-ing" form of the verb.

Subject + **WAS/WERE** + **Verb** (continuous form)
(“verb ‘to be’ in past tense”) + (Present Participle)

Subject	Helping verb	Verb	Present participle	
You / We / They	were	read	<u>-ing</u>	a book.
I / He / She / It	was	talk	<u>-ing</u>	the professor.

I was **sleeping** while it was raining.

Robert was **driving** not his son.

We were **hiking** in the woods last weekend.

They were **hiding** in that house before the police arrested them.



Rebus Puzzle

-a kind of word puzzle that uses pictures to represent words or parts of words.



Top secret

Answer to last week's rebus puzzle:

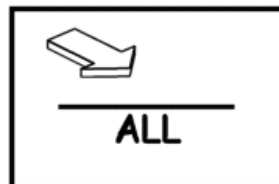


(Win with e's)

win with ease

-to achieve success easily, without difficulty or effort

What is the word or phrase expressed in the following rebus puzzle?



(the answer to the Puzzle will be in the next issue)



"Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn."

– Benjamin Franklin

ถ้าพูดใส่ฉัน-ฉันจะลืมแต่ถ้าสอนฉัน-ฉันอาจจำได้ ใ้ฉันมีส่วนร่วม ฉันจะ
เรียนรู้