



Orson Welles'
War of the Worlds Revisited
1938

**Fill in the blanks Exercise
with key**

**Created by
Ivan Lietaert**

The War of the Worlds

Name: _____

Part 1

Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the bank at the bottom of the page.

_____ with the _____ in
 _____ stories about hoaxes are told, _____
 know that _____ impact hoaxes make is
 _____ in order to tell a
 _____ So _____ sounds a
 _____ dramatic to say
 _____ one million _____ panicked
 _____ 1938, _____ the truth is
 _____ it was probably only a few thousand.

Word Bank:

people better way exaggerated that familiar story. lot but that
 in which more it often I the Being

The War of the Worlds

Name: _____

Part 2

Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the bank at the bottom of the page.

_____ that _____ media
 reported every incident of anomalous behavior that night
 _____ evidence of _____ panic
 _____ speeding car, every suicide,
 _____ whether or
 not it _____ anything to do
 _____ the panic at all.

Word Bank:

actually loud with a I as (i.e. the had every behavior),
 suspect all

The War of the Worlds

Name: _____

Part 3

Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the bank at the bottom of the page.

_____ really _____ some chaos in
_____ mill, where the _____
_____ was _____ to have occurred, but
that's because a lot of _____ people drove
_____ Grover's Mill _____ hearing the
_____ they _____
_____ might be hosting some kind of event there...
in other words, they _____ for
_____ party, _____ panicking.

Word Bank:

not CBS broadcast Grover's thought because main a searching
There panic after were was into said young

The War of the Worlds Part

Name: _____

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Fill in the blanks with the correct words from the bank at the bottom of the page.

Most _____ of _____
_____ out to have _____ from
_____ newspaper reports about it, _____
from direct first-hand experience.

Word Bank:

the come reading not recollections panic turn

The War of the Worlds Part 1

Answer Key:

Being familiar with the way in which stories about hoaxes are told, I know that the impact hoaxes make is often exaggerated in order to tell a better story. So it sounds a lot more dramatic to say that one million people panicked in 1938, but the truth is that it was probably only a few thousand.

The War of the Worlds Part 2

Answer Key:

I suspect that the media reported every incident of anomalous behavior that night as evidence of a panic (i.e. every speeding car, every suicide, all loud behavior), whether or not it actually had anything to do with the panic at all.

The War of the Worlds Part 3

Answer Key:

There really was some chaos in Grover's mill, where the main panic was said to have occurred, but that's because a lot of young people drove into Grover's Mill after hearing the broadcast because they thought CBS might be hosting some kind of event there... in other words, they were searching for a party, not panicking.

The War of the Worlds Part 4

Answer Key:

Most recollections of the panic turn out to have come from reading newspaper reports about it, not from direct first-hand experience.