Orson Welles'  
War of the Worlds Revisited  
1938

Fill in the blanks Exercise  
with key

Created by  
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The War of the Worlds
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
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
Part 3
Name:__________________
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
4
Name:__________________
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.