

2.2 Unbelievable?

Grammar sequencing events

- 1a Put the lines in the correct order to make the story of a famous broadcast.

The War of the Worlds

- _____ listening to the radio. The music was interrupted to announce an alien invasion. **During**
- 10 _____ actually believed the news was true.
- _____ of the broadcast, but many people were not paying attention. **By the**
- _____ the live broadcast, reporters interviewed people who had seen the aliens. **As soon**
- 1 _____ On October 30, 1938, millions of New Yorkers had the shock of their lives **while**
- _____ **Meanwhile**, others went to the streets with their guns. What most people didn't find out
- _____ **as** the first part ended, thousands of people started calling the radio station and the police.
- _____ novel, *The War of the Worlds*. The radio station had actually announced this at the beginning
- _____ **time** the programme ended, there was general hysteria. It is estimated that over one million people
- _____ **until** much later was that it was a hoax, an adaptation by director Orson Welles of a famous

- b 2.4))) Listen and check.
- 2 Complete the sentences about Orson Welles with some of the words or phrases in bold from exercise 1a.
- 1 He had a lot of difficulties during his childhood: his parents divorced when he was four; his mother died when he was nine; and then his father died when he was thirteen.
 - 2 Although he had directed quite successful films, he didn't become really famous _____ the broadcast of *The War of the Worlds*, in 1938.
 - 3 _____ the broadcast finished, Orson Welles became an international celebrity.

- 4 In 1943, _____ he was living in Hollywood, he married Rita Hayworth, one of the greatest actresses of her time.
- 5 In 1947, Welles divorced Rita and moved to Europe for ten years, where he continued working as a director and actor. _____, Rita got married again, to a Pakistani prince.
- 6 _____ he died, in 1985, he had directed thirteen films, including *Citizen Kane*, considered one of the greatest films in cinema history.



- 3 Correct the mistakes in the sentences.

- 1 A seven-year-old boy disappeared ~~meanwhile~~ ^{while} he was playing in the garden.
- 2 His mother called the police as soon she noticed he wasn't there.
- 3 In the time the police arrived, the neighbours had already started looking for him.
- 4 Several groups searched the area. In meanwhile, a police officer interviewed the parents to identify possible suspects.
- 5 Everybody believed he had been kidnapped until that the family dog found him.
- 6 He had been hiding in a tree in the garden while the whole search. He said it was an April Fools' Day joke!

- 4 Complete the story about the Roswell UFO (Unidentified Flying Object) incident by adding the word or phrase in brackets at the end of each sentence in the correct position.

- 1 On 25 June 1947, a pilot saw several objects ^{while} he was flying over Washington. (while)
- 2 A farmer in New Mexico claimed he had found part of a flying disk. (meanwhile)
- 3 He contacted the sheriff and kept the object the Armed Forces took it away. (until)
- 4 Journalists from all over America flew to the area a local newspaper printed the story. (as soon as)
- 5 Stories about aliens had already spread the US Air Force declared that the object wasn't a UFO but a weather balloon. (by the time)
- 6 More mysterious evidence and reports came up the following years. (during)

Vocabulary communication

- 5a Choose the correct options to complete sentences 1–5 and a–e about April Fools' Day hoaxes.



1 April is a traditional day for playing tricks, and every year reputable companies and organizations join in the fun.

- 1 In 1957, the BBC announced / told that Swiss farmers were going to have an excellent spaghetti crop that year. c
- 2 In 1976, BBC Radio 2 admitted / interviewed an astronomer who said that at 9.47 that morning, due to an astronomical event, gravity on Earth would change.
- 3 In 1998, Burger King invented / claimed they would launch a hamburger specially designed for left-handed people.
- 4 In 2008, a BBC documentary reported / informed a revolutionary discovery: a group of penguins that had learnt how to fly.
- 5 In 2000, Google said they had invented / mentioned a new machine called MentalPlex.

- a He told / reported the listeners that if they jumped in the air at that exact time, they would float for a while.
- b All the users had to do was keep / admit quiet while the program read their minds.
- c They only informed / admitted it was a joke after hundreds of people called the radio station asking how to plant the crop.
- d The documentary mentioned / told that the birds flew to South America in the winter.
- e The advertisement informed / claimed customers that the ingredients were rotated 180 degrees.

- b Match sentences 1–5 to a–e in exercise 5a.

- 6 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in brackets.

- 1 A doctor in Cleveland, USA, claimed that he had developed a vaccine for breast cancer. However, when he was _____ by our local reporter, he _____ that, unfortunately, it wouldn't be ready for another ten years. (admit, claim, interview)
- 2 Arsenal _____ yesterday that Puma will become the team's official sponsor from July onwards. The 150-million-pound deal is _____ to be the biggest in the team's history. (announce, report)
- 3 A man was arrested in connection with a bank robbery in Edinburgh last Sunday. A police spokesman _____ our reporter that the suspect _____ during the initial questioning. (keep quiet, tell)

- 7 Rewrite the sentences using the correct form of the words in brackets.

- 1 A famous palaeontologist said he had made a revolutionary discovery. (claim)
A famous palaeontologist claimed he had made a revolutionary discovery.
- 2 Journalists from all over the world wanted to ask him questions. (interview)

- 3 The National Science Association said he was going to be investigated for fraud. (announce)

- 4 He didn't say anything during the investigation. (keep quiet)

- 5 The scientist said he had invented some information to prove his theory. (admit)

- 6 A national scientific magazine informed readers about the whole story in a special edition. (report)

PRONUNCIATION past simple

- 8a How are these *-ed* endings pronounced: /t/, /d/ or /ɪd/?

- | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 1 admitted /ɪd/ | 4 invented _____ | 7 informed _____ |
| 2 interviewed _____ | 5 claimed _____ | 8 reported _____ |
| 3 announced _____ | 6 mentioned _____ | |

- b 2.5))) Listen, check and repeat.

I can ...

sequence events.

Very well

Quite well

More practice



talk about communication.

