

## 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 as soon as the broadcast of *The War of the Worlds*, in 1938.
- 3 After the broadcast finished, Orson Welles became an international celebrity.

4 In 1943, while 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. After, Rita got married again, to a Pakistani prince.

6 Before 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** 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. \_\_\_\_\_
- 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 <u>/ɪd/</u>	4 invented <u>_____</u>	7 informed <u>_____</u>
2 interviewed <u>_____</u>	5 claimed <u>_____</u>	8 reported <u>_____</u>
3 announced <u>_____</u>	6 mentioned <u>_____</u>	

b 2.5 Listen, check and repeat.

## I can ...

sequence events.  
talk about communication.

Very well      Quite well      More practice

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