**VOCABULARY UNIT 5** English 10

**A. BEFORE PRACTICE**

3 = I know this word and can use it on my own 2 = I sort of know what the word means

1 = I have heard the word before, but don’t know what it means 0 = I’ve never heard it before

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| affiliate |  | ecstatic |  | encumber |  | invariably |  | plausible |  |
| pompous |  | portly |  | proximity |  | rejuvenate |  | unprecedented |  |

B. In the following sentences, underline the context clues. Then make your guess about the word before you move on. *These sentences deal with Orson Welles’s 1938 radio broadcast called* The War of the Worlds. *Listeners thought his story about an alien invasion was the truth.*

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| 1. *The War of the Worlds* radio program was a creation of Orson Welles and others who were **affiliated** with a group of radio writers and actors called Mercury Theater on the Air. | My guess: |
| 2. Welles chose writer Howard Koch to make *The War of the Worlds*,but Koch was overwhelmed with work and was not **ecstatic** about the project.  | My guess: |
| 3. Welles was working on another play at the same time, so why did he **encumber** himself with two projects at once? | My guess: |
| 4. Wherever they were, Koch and Welles **invariably** thought about the project, even when taking time off to be with family. | My guess: |
| 5. Koch wanted the broadcast to sound **plausible**, so he decided that the story needed a real setting so the events would seem true. | My guess: |
| 6. Koch chose the town of Grovers Mill, New Jersey, as the site of the alien invasion. The decision was not made by **pompous**, self-important executives; Koch simply chose the place where his pencil landed on a map.  | My guess: |
| 7. He liked the sound of the name Grovers Mill because it reminded him of a town called Grover’s Corners in the famous play *Our Town*, where the sight of **portly** farmers and their stout families meant there was plenty of food to eat.  | My guess: |
| 8. Another reason Koch chose Grovers Mill was its **proximity** to Princeton University. One of the characters in the story was a university professor and an astronomer.  | My guess: |
| 9. Days before the radio broadcast, Koch was still planning how to have the announcer interrupt a music program for the story of the alien invasion, but completing the script **rejuvenated** Koch, making him feel like a kid again.  | My guess: |
| 10. As it turned out, the story sounded so real that it created an **unprecedented** radio event. Never before had people mistaken a fictional radio story for a real news report.  | My guess: |

C. Write the correct word next to its definition and identify any variations of the word.

**affiliate ecstatic encumber invariably plausible**

**pompous portly proximity rejuvenate unprecedented**

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|  | **WORD** | **DEFINITION** | **VARIATIONS?** |
| 1. |  | Continually; perpetually; constantly; always (adverb) *Without changing* |  |
| 2. |  | Nearness; closeness; a neighboring area (noun) *Nearness in distance or time* |  |
| 3. |  | An associated person or organization; a member (noun); to associate or unite with a larger body (verb) *To be related to or controlled by a larger group* |  |
| 4. |  | To make young or vigorous again; to give youthful qualities to (verb)*To make someone feel or look young and strong again* |  |
| 5. |  | Comfortably fat or stout; large and heavy in a stately and dignified way (adjective) *Especially older men who are fat and round* |  |
| 6. |  | To hinder; to weigh down; to burden (verb) *To make it more difficult for someone to do something, or for something to happen* |  |
| 7. |  | Never done or known before; without previous example (adjective)*Never having happened before, or never having happened so much* |  |
| 8. |  | Filled with rapture; transported by an exalted feeling of delight; overjoyed (adjective) *Feeling extremely happy and excited*  |  |
| 9. |  | Overly dignified; self-important; exaggerated stateliness; as in speech or manner (adjective) *Trying to make people think you are important, especially by using a lot of formal words* |  |
| 10. |  | Appearing to be true; reasonable; seeming to be logical or correct (adjective) *Easy to believe and likely to be true* |  |

**D. Fill in the blanks in the following sentences.**

1. In 1938, the radio was used for entertainment; now we are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ turning on the TV.

2. Regular radio listeners were \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ when their favorite programs came on and sad when they ended.

3. Many listeners like Orson Welles and the Mercury Theater, which was carried by local radio stations that were \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the national channel CBS.

4. People may have thought they knew what to expect of Welles, but *The War of Worlds* was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

5. Welles had a dynamic, deep, clear voice during his young, slender years. His voiced changed very little, even when he became older and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

6. The way Welles played the radio announcer in the story was not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but natural and humble.

7. To thousands of believing listeners, the announcer’s descriptions of the invading aliens sounded \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

8. The script of the story was not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, or weighed down, by too much literary description. Instead, it sounded like an eyewitness news story.

9. People in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Grovers Mill must have been especially terrified that the “invasion” was happening right in their neighborhood.

10. The radio program probably \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ those listeners who knew it was fictional, making them feel like delighted children once again. On the other hand, anyone who thought the world was actually being taken over by aliens was sure to age years simply from the terror.

E. AFTER PRACTICE: *Go back to Part A and evaluate each word again. Focus your study before the quiz on those words that you have still identified as a 2 or below.*  *Use the menu to practice any words that you are still struggling to remember.*