

Questions 34-44 are based on the following passage.

Was the Hoax a Hoax?

For an hour on the evening of October 30, 1938, Orson Welles and other performers from the Mercury Theatre flooded the airwaves with alarming “news bulletins” about a Martian invasion supposedly occurring in Grover’s Mill, New Jersey. They were performing a radio play adapted from *The War of the Worlds*, a science fiction novel by H. G. Wells. The next day, a front-page **34** headline in the *New York Times* declared, “Radio Listeners in Panic, Taking War Drama as Fact.” **35** The *Times* article claimed that people had fled their homes and that police stations had been swamped with calls. This version of events persisted, and the legend became that Welles’s broadcast had as many as twelve million people **36** who feared that Martians had invaded Earth.

Recently, however, scholars have questioned the accuracy of this legend, suggesting the degree of public hysteria has been grossly exaggerated. The authors of an article published in October 2013 go **37** so far to assign blame for the distortion to the newspaper industry.

34

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) headline in the *New York Times*, declared
- C) headline, in the *New York Times* declared,
- D) headline, in the *New York Times*, declared

35

The writer wants to add a supporting detail to indicate that the story was widely reported. Which choice best accomplishes this goal?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) Other newspapers also ran stories claiming that the broadcast had incited mass hysteria.
- C) In 2013, many newspapers and magazines featured articles about the seventy-fifth anniversary of the broadcast.
- D) The *Times* was then and is now one of the United States’ most popular news sources.

36

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) that feared
- C) fearing
- D) to fear

37

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) as far
- C) as far and
- D) so far as

38 At this time, Jefferson Pooley and Michael Socolow, both professors of communication studies, argue that the newspaper industry sought to discredit the newly emerging technology of radio, which was cutting into newspapers' 39 profits. The newspaper industry tried to do this by portraying the new medium as irresponsible.

[1] Proof of ulterior motives is scarce,

40 consequently weakening Pooley and Socolow's argument. [2] For instance, the C. E. Hooper ratings indicate that a mere 2 percent of households had tuned in to the broadcast. [3] Pooley and Socolow also call into question the validity of an oft-cited report that was based on a survey conducted six weeks after the broadcast. [4] Just because some people found the broadcast unsettling, the authors contend, doesn't mean they believed it and reacted with real terror. [5] According to this report, one million people indicated that they had been "frightened" by the broadcast. [6] Ratings, however, reveal that 41 far fewer than a million people had been

38

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) On one hand,
- C) In the article,
- D) Next,

39

Which choice most effectively combines the sentences at the underlined portion?

- A) profits, which is what the newspaper industry tried to do when it portrayed
- B) profits, by which the newspaper industry portrayed
- C) profits and tried to do this by portraying
- D) profits, by portraying

40

Which choice best establishes the main idea of the paragraph?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) but evidence does suggest that reports of panic have been overblown.
- C) yet Pooley and Socolow maintain that the newspaper industry intentionally distorted the story.
- D) making it difficult to determine what really happened in 1938.

41

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) many less than
- C) much less then
- D) much fewer then

listening to the broadcast. [7] Furthermore, Pooley and Socolow note that this survey “conflated being ‘frightened,’ ‘disturbed,’ or ‘excited’ by the program with being ‘panicked.’” 42

Pooley and Socolow describe a more likely scenario: most people who heard the broadcast understood they were listening to a piece of fiction, but 43 some being influenced by the sensationalized news coverage afterward, later “remembered” being more afraid than they had been. The researchers also suggest that, 44 not unlike people who got caught up in the excitement of the story when reading about it in the newspaper, the American public may have been willing to embrace the legend because of its appeal to the imagination.

42

To make this paragraph most logical, sentence 4 should be placed

- A) where it is now.
- B) after sentence 2.
- C) after sentence 5.
- D) after sentence 7.

43

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) some, they were
- C) some,
- D) some

44

Which choice most effectively signals the comparison the writer is making between the two groups mentioned?

- A) NO CHANGE
- B) unlike
- C) not like
- D) different from

STOP

**If you finish before time is called, you may check your work on this section only.
Do not turn to any other section.**