



Orson Welles was (1)
American actor, radio broadcaster,
screen writer, film and theatre
director, magician and film producer.
He spent his childhood in Chicago,

but (2) the age of 15, left his home and
travelled around Ireland, walking and painting. (He was
a talented artist.) When he reached Dublin, he walked
into (3) Gate Theatre and claimed to be
a star of the American stage. Whether or
(4) the manager of the theatre believed
the story, he gave Welles a starring role in a new play.
Welles was a hit with both the public and the critics.

After returning to the USA, he worked on a series of
books called *The Mercury Shakespeare*, which were

bestsellers (5) decades. But he achieved
worldwide fame in 1938 with his radio adaptation of the
famous science fiction story, *The War Of the Worlds*.
The programme was in the style of a news bulletin,
and thousands of listeners panicked, believing (6)
aliens from Mars really (7) invaded the Earth.

At the age of 26, Welles wrote, directed, produced and
starred in a film (8) *Citizen Kane*, which many
film critics consider to (9) the greatest film
ever made. His acting was powerful and convincing. In
one scene, his character becomes (10) furious
that he destroys a room (11) his bare hands.
After this scene, Welles apparently walked off the set with
blood on his hands, saying (12) 'himself 'I felt it.
I felt it.'

ORSON WELLES