

**Directions:** In this section, there is a passage with ten blanks. You are required to select one word for each blank from a list of choices given in a word bank following the passage. Read the passage through carefully before making your choices. Each choice in the bank is identified by a letter. Please mark the corresponding letter for each item on **Answer Sheet 2** with a single line through the centre. You may not use any of the words in the bank more than once.

The United Nations issued a report last week warning that humans are destroying nature at such a rate that life on Earth is at risk. When the report came out, it naturally 26 headlines. But obviously it didn't hijack the news agenda in the manner of a major terrorist attack or 27 of war.

The report from the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) is clear on what's at 28 and what needs to change. IPBES chair Robert Watson says the "29 evidence" presents an "ominous(凶兆的) picture". "The health of ecosystems on which we and all other species depend is 30 more rapidly than ever," Robert Watson said. "We are 31 the very foundations of our economies, livelihoods, food security, health and quality of life worldwide." The report says it's not too late if we make "transformative change"—fundamental, system-wide reorganization—at every level from local to global, and we need to focus on how to make that happen.

First, don't indulge in despair, because despair leads to inertia and doing nothing means certain 32 . Every action to save nature will improve our collective and personal futures and the only way to respond to a threat of this scale is with 33 action rooted in headstrong optimism. Second, we need relentless focus, just like when paramedics(救护人员) arrive on a scene and use the concept of "triage(伤员鉴别分类)" to ensure the most 34 cases get treated first. Saving the natural world needs that kind of thinking. We don't have the 35 to do everything at once. We need to make hard choices.

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|------------------|-----------------|
| A) capacity      | I) Junction     |
| B) declaration   | J) Monotonous   |
| C) deteriorating | K) overwhelming |
| D) determined    | L) stagnation   |
| E) disaster      | M) stake        |
| F) eroding       | N) stifled      |
| G) grabbed       | O) urgent       |
| H) inventory     |                 |