Listening — Listen and fill in the gaps

Germany's leader Angela Merkel (1) _____ climate change after the devastation from (2) _____ in Europe. Ms Merkel said she (3) _____ the destruction across swathes of Europe. She visited the hardest-hit areas in Germany and listened to accounts of the (4) _____ residents. She said: "It's shocking. I can (5) _____ that the German language does not have words to describe the destruction." Ms Merkel said the world had to escalate (6) _____ the climate crisis. She said: "We have to be faster in the fight against climate change."

Torrential rains caused many rivers to (7) _____ last week. Many (8) _____ and caused flash floods in adjacent areas. Floodwaters washed away houses, roads and bridges across Germany, Belgium and other countries. The (9) _____ now 190, with many people missing. Towns are covered (10) _____ some areas are beyond recognition. Ms Merkel described this (11) _____. The premier of one flood-stricken state said the clean-up operation would take "years". He questioned Germany's (12) _____ and the effectiveness of flood defences.

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