Write a terse, coherent, yet informative paper, five double-spaced, typed pages, on the following question. Please follow the styles of standard academic writing and include full references (it can be in the form of footnotes or endnotes, or reference in the text, e.g., Wang (2002: 208), followed by a list of references at the end). If you are unfamiliar with academic styles, please consult The Chicago Manual of Style, or Kate Turabian’s A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations. Make sure you check the spelling and grammar. Feel free to use scholarly books or journals to support your arguments. You can consult any materials appropriate for the preparation of this essay, but you must provide full references, and the work must be your own. You can consult any materials appropriate for the preparation of this essay, but you must provide full references, and the work must be your own. Please include the following honor pledge at the top of your paper, and sign your name: “I pledge that I have neither given or received unauthorized assistance during the completion of this work” (signature).

Write an integrative essay that includes the following: (1) Discuss the main challenges for Hong Kong and for the People’s Republic of China as a result of Hong Kong’s transition from a British colony to a “special administrative region” of the PRC. (2) Assess the “scorecard” of HKSAR since July 1, 1997 in terms of some of the most salient criteria, e.g., autonomy, freedom, prosperity, democracy (but be clear on what criteria you use). (3) Are you optimistic or pessimistic about Hong Kong’s future – both in the short-run and in the long-run? Please explain the bases for your optimism or pessimism.