

**35 Minutes.**

Study Sources A and B.

**SOURCE A**

Below is a review on the political situation in Hong Kong in the 1990s by Hong Kong political scientist Cheng Yu-shek.

The selection method of the Chief Executive and the 60 members of the Provisional Legislative Council (PLC) after 1997 differed widely from that of the Governor of Hong Kong under British rule and shared few similarities with the electoral system adopted in the Legislative Election of 1995. In the past 150 years of colonial rule, the British government had never had consultation with Hong Kong people on governor appointment and, needless to say, their involvement in decision-making. However, it was still far from being democratic participation of Hongkongers for the Selection Committee of 400 members, most of whom came from the business sector, to choose the Chief Executive. Despite the fact that all the committee members were from Hong Kong, they were appointed by the Preparatory Committee for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, whose members were designated by the National People's Congress of the PRC without direct participation of Hongkongers.

There were 60 members in both the Provisional Legislative Council and the one effective between 1995 and 1997 under British rule, but their differences were huge. Over 1.38 million votes were cast in the Hong Kong Legislative Election of 1995, while the PLC was elected by only 400 Selection Committee members. It does not make any sense to deny that the PLC election was a major setback in the democratic development of Hong Kong, especially when 26 democratic lawmakers elected in 1995 refused to join the PLC and recognize its legitimacy.

**SOURCE B**

Below is Qian Qichen's speech at the seventh plenary session of the Preparatory Committee for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in 1996 as the Chairman.

Regarding the Provisional Legislative Council, even now some people still have reservations. We have stated repeatedly that setting up the Provisional Legislative Council of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region was never our original plan. It is just the last resort we must take after the British solely implemented the so-called 'political reform package' and upset the 'through-train' arrangements. It is also essential to set up the Provisional Legislative Council to ensure that there will be a legislative body and the SAR will function normally without being affected by a legal vacuum when it is established on 1 July 1997. We are delighted to see that just like how they responded to the election campaigns of the Selection Committee and the first Chief Executive, Hongkongers show their enthusiasm for standing in the Provisional Legislative Council election. These candidates come from different social classes, sectors and fields, with many of them as current Legislative Councillors. This shows that most of the Hong Kong people recognize and support the Provisional Legislative Council.

The formation of the Provisional Legislative Council should be fully representative and demonstrate balanced participation from all walks of life. Suitable candidates should be chosen based on their representativeness of the community, personal conduct, ability to deliberate on political affairs and other criteria, with special effort to include those with legislative experience.

- (a) With reference to Source A, identify *two* changes in Hong Kong's politics in the 1990s. (4 marks)
- (b) According to Sources A and B, compare Cheng Yu-shek's and Qian Qichen's views on the Provisional Legislative Council. (4 marks)
- (c) In terms of shaping Hong Kong's political development in the 1990s, do you think China or Britain had greater impact? Explain your answer with reference to Sources A and B, and using your own knowledge. (7 marks)