

3 million passports for Hong Kong citizens

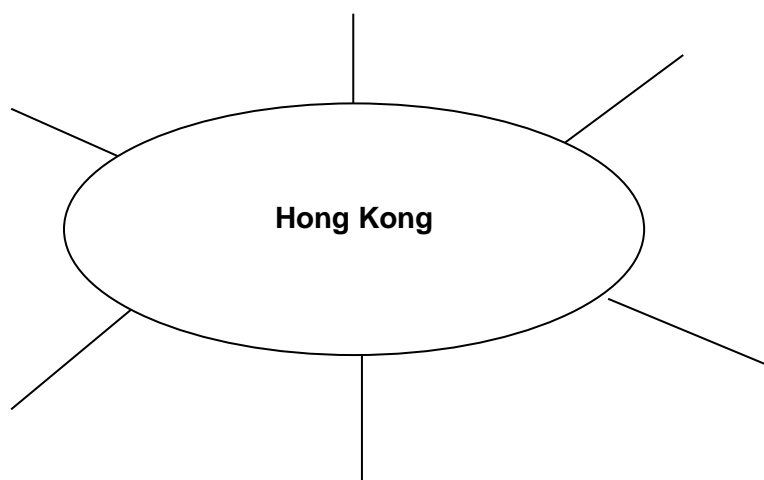
Pre-reading

1. Describe the photo in less than 60 words.



Photo: Picture Alliance

2. What do you associate with Hong Kong? Collect your ideas in a mind map.



Compare your mind map with your partner's and together find your three top ideas. Explain your choices.



3. Find out what the word “sino” means:

4. Have you ever heard of the “Sino-British Joint Declaration” for Hong Kong? If not, what could it be about?

5. A country has passed a new “security law”. What do you think that means?

Reading comprehension

1. Find out what the article says about the new security law in Hong Kong.

2. Read the article and find and explain the political crimes that the new security law will punish.

or:

Read the article and find the political crimes that the new security law will punish. The first letter of each one has been given to you.

S _____

S _____

C _____



3. Find out who is who.

Boris Johnson	
Tam Yiu-chung	
Dominic Raab	

4. Find out how the British government reacted to the new Chinese security law.

5. Find out what the Sino-British Joint Declaration is.



or:

Re-write the following passage so that you know what the Sino-British Joint Declaration is.

The Sino-British Joint Declaration is a treaty that was signed in 1984 by the United Kingdom and China. It was about what would happen in Hong Kong after 1997. At the time Hong Kong was a British colony, but after 1997 it would become a territory of China. The treaty gave the territory of Hong Kong a lot of autonomy from China. The UK and China agreed Hong Kong would be one country with two systems. Freedoms found in the UK but not in China, like freedom of speech and freedom of assembly, were guaranteed in Hong Kong for at least 50 years.

6. Find out what the following numbers stand for.

1997	
300,000	
2,900,000	
1984	
50	



7. Decide whether the following statements are right or wrong. Correct the wrong statements below.

Statement	R	W
a) Hong Kong is still British.		
b) Tam Yui-chung does not support the new law.		
c) Beijing belongs to Hong Kong.		
d) The new law was passed to give people in Hong Kong the right to protest.		
e) The new Chinese security law reduces Hongkongers' rights.		
f) Hongkongers who have a BNO passport will have the right to live and work in the UK.		
g) The British government cannot force China to let Hongkongers come to the the UK.		

Post-reading

1. Give a short talk on either:

Boris Johnson
 the Sino-British Joint Declaration
 the situation in Hong Kong

2. Write a letter to the Chinese government, telling them what you think about their new law.

3. Write a letter to Boris Johnson, telling him what you think about his position.

4. China says what they do in Hong Kong is an internal Chinese matter. Comment on this statement.

5. The article mentions the right to freedom of speech and the freedom of assembly. Collect more rights and try to list them according to their importance for you.



Answer key

Pre-reading

1. A hand is holding up a purple passport book with the words United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on it. Behind the passport is a flag. The flag is dark blue and has the Union Jack, the flag of Britain, in the corner. The person is indoors. It looks like a shopping mall to me.
3. "Sino" means of or connected to China.

Reading comprehension

1.
 - passed by the Chinese government
 - gives Beijing more power over the territory than ever before
 - reduces Hong Kong's autonomy from China
 - makes it easier for the Chinese government to severely punish political crimes
 - its language is vague
 - has been called "the end of Hong Kong" by critics
 - is rejected by the British government
2.
 - secession = breaking away from the country
 - subversion = undermining the power of the central government
 - collusion = being in secret agreement with foreign or external forces

3.

Boris Johnson	British Prime Minister
Tam Yiu-chung	A pro-Beijing politician in China
Dominic Raab	British Foreign Secretary

4.

Boris Johnson says the law is a "clear and serious breach" of the Sino-British Joint Declaration and it violates Hong Kong's freedoms. The British government will give all British National Overseas passport holders in Hong Kong the right to remain in the UK, including the right to work and study.

5.

The Sino-British Joint Declaration is a treaty that was signed in 1984 by the United Kingdom and China. It was about what would happen in Hong Kong after 1997. At the time Hong Kong was a British colony, but after 1997 it would become a territory of China. The treaty gave the territory of Hong Kong a lot of autonomy from China. The UK and China agreed Hong Kong would be one country with two systems. Freedoms found in the UK but not in China, like freedom of speech and freedom of assembly, were guaranteed in Hong Kong for at least 50 years.

6.

1997	Hong Kong became independent from the UK.
300,000	Citizens of Hong Kong who have a British National Overseas passport.
2,900,000	Number of Hongkongers who are allowed to have a British National Overseas passport.
1984	The year the Sino-British Joint Declaration was passed.
50	Number of years freedoms like the freedom of speech and the freedom of assembly were guaranteed in Hong Kong by the Sino-British Joint Declaration.

7. a) wrong • b) wrong • c) wrong • d) wrong • e) right • f) right • g) right

corrected statements:

a) Hong Kong is a territory of China. (para. 3) • b) Tam Yui-chung supports the new law. (para. 4) • c) Beijing is the capital of China. • d) Critics think that the law was passed to silence and punish protestors. (para. 4)



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