



## Learning Targets

- Understanding the Constitution and the Basic Law can shed light on how they protect the welfare of the people.

## Extended Exercises

- Worksheet – The rights and duties of Hong Kong residents
- Worksheet – Religious freedom and pluralism
- Worksheet – Judiciary and the rule of law
- Worksheet – Freedom of occupation and employment protection
- Worksheet – Hong Kong's cultural and arts development

## Daily Life



✧ What message does the comic convey?

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Article 4 of the Basic Law states that the HKSAR shall safeguard the rights and freedoms of the residents of the HKSAR and of other persons in the Region in accordance with law.

Aspects	Articles of the Basic Law
Labour welfare	<b>Article 36</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hong Kong residents shall have the right to social welfare in accordance with law. The welfare benefits and retirement security of the labour force shall be protected by law.</li> </ul>
Marriage	<b>Article 37</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The freedom of marriage of Hong Kong residents and their right to raise a family freely shall be protected by law.</li> </ul>
Other rights and freedoms	<b>Article 38</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hong Kong residents shall enjoy the other rights and freedoms safeguarded by the laws of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.</li> </ul>
Medical and health services	<b>Article 138</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall, on its own, formulate policies to develop Western and traditional Chinese medicine and to improve medical and health services. Community organizations and individuals may provide various medical and health services in accordance with law.</li> </ul>
Subsidized organizations	<b>Article 140</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall, on its own, formulate policies on culture and protect by law the achievements and the lawful rights and interests of authors in their literary and artistic creation.</li> </ul>
Social welfare system	<b>Article 145</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On the basis of the previous social welfare system, the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall, on its own, formulate policies on the development and improvement of this system in the light of the economic conditions and social needs.</li> </ul>



# Deepen Understanding (I)

## (I) True or False

(II) Write T for correct sentences and F for incorrect ones in the boxes provided.

1. Hong Kong residents are entitled to enjoy labour welfare. ☐
2. Hong Kong legislation does not allow social organizations and private entities to provide medical and health services. ☐
3. Hong Kong residents have the freedom to decide on marriage and childbirth. ☐
4. The Hong Kong SAR government has the authority to formulate policies for the development and improvement of the social welfare system. ☐

## (III) Multiple choice

Choose the correct answers and fill in the boxes provided.

1. The protection of the Basic Law, the Hong Kong SAR government has the authority to:
    - (i) Formulate policies for the development of both Chinese and Western medicine
    - (ii) Accept donations from the private sector
    - (iii) Establish policies to promote medical and health services
    - (iv) Provide Hong Kong residents with free access to medical services
- A. (i), (iii)  
B. (i), (ii), (iii)  
C. (ii), (iii), (iv)  
D. All of the above
- ☐

2. According to the Basic Law, which of the following categories of private organizations can the government subsidize?

- (i) Culture
- (ii) Recreation
- (iii) Social work
- (iv) Sports
- A. (i), (iii)
- B. (i), (ii), (iii)
- C. (ii), (iii), (iv)
- D. All of the above



## The Constitution Express

The Constitution of the People's Republic of China (the Constitution) and the Basic Law together form the constitutional basis of the HKSAR. They form the foundation of "one country, two systems" and provide a strong safeguard for the long-term prosperity and stability of Hong Kong. Through the provisions in the Constitution and the Basic Law regarding education, science and technology, culture, religion, sports, and other aspects, we can understand the similarities and differences in the management of local affairs between the HKSAR and the mainland within the framework of "One Country, Two Systems."

The first chapter of the Constitution establishes the development policies of the country in the aforementioned areas. Additionally, relevant provisions can be found in the second chapter, which explains the basic rights and obligations of citizens. The Basic Law, on the other hand, outlines related matters in its sixth chapter. A comparison between the two is as follows:

	The Constitution	The Basic Law
Labour welfare	<b>Article 43</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working people in the People's Republic of China shall have the right to rest. The state shall develop rest and recuperation facilities for working people</li> </ul>	<b>Article 36</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hong Kong residents shall have the right to social welfare in accordance with law. The welfare benefits and retirement</li> </ul>

	<p>and stipulate systems for employee working hours and vacations.</p> <p><b>Article 44</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The state shall, in accordance with the provisions of law, implement a retirement system for employees of enterprises, public institutions and state organs. The livelihood of retirees shall be ensured by the state and society.</li> </ul>	<p>security of the labour force shall be protected by law.</p>
Medical and health services	<p><b>Article 45</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Citizens of the People's Republic of China shall have the right to material assistance from the state and society when they are aged, ill or have lost the capacity to work. The state shall develop the social insurance, social relief, and medical and health services necessary for citizens to enjoy this right.</li> <li>• The state and society shall guarantee the livelihood of disabled military personnel, provide pensions to the families of martyrs, and give preferential treatment to the family members of military personnel.</li> <li>• The state and society shall assist arrangements for the work,</li> </ul>	<p><b>Article 138</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall, on its own, formulate policies to develop Western and traditional Chinese medicine and to improve medical and health services. Community organizations and individuals may provide various medical and health services in accordance with law.</li> </ul>

	livelihood and education of citizens who are blind, deaf, mute or have other disabilities.	
Social welfare system	<b>Article 42</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Citizens of the People's Republic of China shall have the right and the obligation to work.</li> <li>• The state shall, in various ways, create employment opportunities, strengthen worker protections, improve working conditions and, based on the development of production, increase remuneration for work and work-related benefits.</li> </ul>	<b>Article 145</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On the basis of the previous social welfare system, the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall, on its own, formulate policies on the development and improvement of this system in the light of the economic conditions and social needs.</li> </ul>



## Deepen Understanding (II)

### (IV) Distinguishing

Distinguish the policies of Hong Kong and the Mainland under the Constitution and the Basic Law. Put '✓' in the correct boxes.

	The Constitution	The Basic Law
1. Regulate working hours and vacation systems for laborers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Citizens are entitled to retirement security.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Ensure the livelihood of disabled veterans.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Citizens have the right to work and corresponding obligations.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. The government will continuously improve the welfare system according to needs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



## Suggested Answers

### Comic

◦ The comic shows that under the Constitution, all people are ensured proper protection. Firstly, the comic shows a large tree with the words "Constitution" written on it. Additionally, the comic illustrates the tree providing shade and protection to soldier, elderly, disability, and student, all of whom are shown happily benefiting from the shade. This reflects how the Constitution, like a large tree, offers protection to people of all ages, identities, backgrounds, and social classes. Thus, the comic highlights that under the safeguard of the Constitution, all individuals are granted appropriate protection.

### (I) True or False

1. T
2. F
3. T
4. T

### (II) Multiple choice

1. A
2. D

### (III) Distinguishing

	The Constitution	The Basic Law
1. Regulate working hours and vacation systems for laborers.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Citizens are entitled to retirement security.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. Ensure the livelihood of disabled veterans.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Citizens have the right to work and corresponding obligations.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discover The Constitution of the People's Republic of China and the Basic Law

5. The government will continuously  
improve the welfare system according  
to needs.

