C.14 MODERN CHINESE TRANSLATION AND COMPOSITION, 2

ALL questions should be attempted. Write in Chinese throughout. Where characters are incorrectly written or omitted, appropriate credit will be given if a correct transcription of the word or words is given in pinyin.

Write your number not your name on the cover sheet of each Section booklet.

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS
20 Page Answer Book x 1
Rough Work Pad

You may not start to read the questions printed on the subsequent pages of this question paper until instructed that you may do so by the Invigilator.
1 Translate into Chinese [33 marks]

The most political of all panda presents are Tuantuan and Yuanyuan. Now among Wolong’s most famous attractions, the two panda bears were offered to Taiwan in 2005. Taiwan’s independence-minded government turned them down, accusing China of using pandas to further its goals of taking over the island. The couple’s names did not go down well either: tuanyuan means ‘reunited’ in Chinese.

There is still hope. Taiwan’s main opposition party, the Kuomintang (KMT), may win the presidential election in 2008. The KMT is pro-panda (China’s offer was made to the party, not directly to the Taiwanese government). Despite a ruling by the Council of Agriculture in 2006 that the pandas could not be imported, Taipei’s optimistic zoo has been busy building a panda enclosure. A rival bid has been made by a nearby theme park, Leofoo Village, which has already built its panda facilities. Sean Chuang, chairman of the company that owns Leofoo Village, says there is nothing wrong with the pandas’ names. A KMT spokesman agrees.

Meanwhile, Tuantuan and Yuanyuan wait in their misty Chinese limbo. And pragmatic officials in Sichuan are doing good business luring Taiwanese tourists to Wolong to see the pair there.

2 Translate into Chinese [33 marks]

Hong Kong remains the preferred city in Asia for overseas and Mainland companies to locate their regional offices or headquarters. According to a newly released annual survey by HK’s Census and Statistics Department, 3,890 companies out of the 6,440 representing parent companies located outside HK have their regional offices or headquarters in the city. Since the handover in 1997, the number of regional headquarters and regional offices has increased by 55%.

The United States topped the list of countries/territories with regional headquarters (298), followed by Japan (232), and the United Kingdom (124). The regional headquarters listed wholesale, retail and import/export trades; business services; and transport and related services, as their major lines of business.
Key factors favouring Hong Kong as a location for regional headquarters or regional offices include: (1) a low tax-rate and simple tax system; (2) free flow of information; (3) absence of exchange controls; (4) corruption-free government; and (5) sound communication, transport and other infrastructure.

3 Write an essay in Chinese on the following topic (approximately 400 characters) [34 Marks]:

论当今中国面临的两个主要问题
Comment on what you consider to be the two major problems that China is facing today

END OF PAPER