I give the following example before I give the activity to students.

Example:

Suppose we are trying to decide between two job offers and we are basing our decision on two factors, the “salary” and the “location.”

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Job** | **Salary** | **Location** |
| A | 48,000 | Bestville |
| B | 67, 000 | Troublecity |

We like the higher salary of Job B, but we prefer the location for Job A.

So, if we try to rate the each factor on a scale of 1 to 2, where “2”

is the most preferred , we will have

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Job** | **Salary** | **Location** |
| A | 1 | 2 |
| B | 2 | 1 |

Now, we need to decide which attribute is more important for us, the salary or the location. If “salary” is more important than the “location”, then by using the same scale, we will assign “2” points for salary, and “1” point for the location.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Job** | **Salary** | **Location** |
| A | 1 | 2 |
| B | 2 | 1 |
| Weight | 2 | 1 |

Then, the weighted sum for each job can be calculated as:

