Routing Decision Questionnaire (RDQ)

**Please take a moment to read the passage below:**

Organized criminal gangs have taken advantage of political instability to smuggle illicit goods using overland routes. These goods are transported across multiple countries where they are sold illegally on the black market.

One way to minimize the damage caused by smuggling is to intercept the smugglers while they are traveling with illicit goods. Before this is possible, we must figure out where and how these smugglers are traveling.

Research has indicated that smugglers use rational decision making when they select their transportation routes. Some of the factors they take into consideration include how far they must travel, area crime rates, the populations of the areas they will be traveling, the presence of competing gangs, and how complex the route may be.

For example, a smuggler may choose to travel through a city with high crime because they believe there are less police or they may deviate from a high crime city to avoid a possible conflict. Conversely, they may select a high crime city to avoid opposing gang territory.

**Read:** For this survey, we ask you to take on the point of view of a smuggler who is trying to avoid detection. Try to think about what would be important for a smuggler to avoid when traveling with illicit goods.

**Part - 1**

**Directions:**  The following are details that smugglers might care about when deciding which cities to travel through. Rate each on a scale of 1 (**not important at all**) to 5 (**extremely important**), you may provide the same rating for multiple items. Then, whether having higher or lower of each value is better. Lastly, provide a brief explanation of your reasoning.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Attribute** | **Scale** | **High / Low** | **Comment** |
| Distance to next destination | 1 2 3 4 5 | High / Low |  |
| Crime Rate | 1 2 3 4 5 | High / Low |  |
| Population Density | 1 2 3 4 5 | High / Low |  |
| Presence of competing gangs | 1 2 3 4 5 | High / Low |  |
| Complexity of the route | 1 2 3 4 5 | High / Low |  |

**Part - 2**

**Directions:**  Consider the ratings you provided above. Rank each of the previously listed items based on which of them would be the most important to you.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_