Muscat

The capital of Oman
Muscat is located in northeast Oman along the Gulf of Oman.
People of Muscat:

- Just over 1 million people (for the whole metropolitan area).
- Many of the people are expatriates (expats), residents of foreign countries who work in Oman.
- Probably in the Muscat area, over half the population is expats.
- Omanis speak Arabic, but many of the expats use English as a common language.
Location/Climate of Muscat:

- By the Gulf of Oman, not too far from Iran (by sea) and the United Arab Emirates (by land).
- The climate is hot. Winters are mild (high 70s, low 80s); summers HOT (104, up to 118).
- The weather is rather humid because of the location near the sea, but there is not much rain.
Lifestyle in Muscat

• Muscat has kept some of its traditional style.
• But it is very modern:
  – Modern roads
  – Good plumbing
  – Clean drinking water
  – Air-conditioning
  – Modern schools and hospitals
Al Alam Palace of Sultan Qaboos
Clues/Investigative plan
What we know about John Thompson:

- He was an American who loved living in Oman.
- He was a business owner, who seems to be close to his business partner, an Indian named Harish Gopta.
- The other people who knew him best are an ex-wife (in the U.S.) and his sister, Cara.
- He had lots of friends and business connections, some of them powerful people.
- He was writing a book about Oman and Zanzibar.
Your mission for today:

Learn more about Muscat in order to understand the lifestyle and culture. (This could help you solve the case.)
And interview his associates to identify possible suspects or witnesses:

- Harish – his business partner
- Diane – his next-door neighbor
- Saif – father of his employee Amira
- Amira – employee at John’s company
- Cara – John’s sister