**T.S.** In *Of Mice and Men*, by John Steinbeck, Candy is a is a lonely old man, eager for conversation.

**Evidence #1:** An example of Candy’s loneliness is when he eavesdrops on George and Lennie, but then denies it saying, “A guy on a ranch don’t never listen nor he don’t ast no questions” (Steinbeck 24).

**Explanation (2 sentences):** Because Candy is a swamper, he is alone all day in the bunkhouse while the others are out working the land, so he is anxious to talk with George and Lennie when they arrive. As they talk, Candy seems to be happy to not be alone, and he initiates conversations with George.

**Evidence #2:** Candy is also a gossip, and uses his inside information to keep the conversation going saying, “Well, I think Curley’s married…a tart” (Steinbeck 28).

**Explanation (2 sentences):** As an old, disabled man, Candy uses his ranch gossip to make friends. He enjoys telling George about Curley and Curley’s wife. When George seems to lose interest in gossip about Curley, Candy starts gossiping about Curley’s wife to continue talking.

**Evidence #3:** Despite the risk of being fired, Candy shares the ranch’s gossip with George, asking George, “You won’t tell Curley nothing I said? (Steinbeck 28).

**Explanation (2 sentences):** Candy knows that he could be fired if he offends them. Even though he could get in trouble with the Boss or Curley, Candy gossips anyway because he is desperate for a friendly conversation.

**C.S.** The old swamper, Candy, gossips with George and Lennie because he is lonely and eager to have a friend.

**T.S.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Evidence #2:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Evidence #3:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**C.S.** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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