***Of Mice & Men*: Introducing Candy (Chapter Two: Pages 25-26)**

The old man came slowly into the room. He had his broom in his hand. And at his heels there walked a drag-footed sheep dog, grey of muzzle, and with pale, blind old eyes. The dog struggled lamely to his side of the room and lay down, grunting softly to himself and licking his grizzled, moth-eaten coat. The swamper watched him until he was settled. “I wasn’t listenin’. I was jus’ standin’ in the shade a minute scratchin’ my dog. I jus’ now finished swampin’ out the wash house.”

“You was pokin’ your big ears into our business,” George said. “I don’t like nobody to get nosey.”

The old man looked uneasily from George to Lennie, and then back again. “I jus’ come there,” he said. “I didn’t hear nothing you guys was sayin’. I ain’t interested in nothing you was sayin’. A guy on a ranch don’t never listen nor he don’t ast no questions.”

1. What do the first two sentences tell us about the character of Candy?

1. Why does Steinbeck give Candy a pet dog? What does this tell us about his character? How are the dog and the man similar? Use evidence in your answer.
2. Candy is referred to as “the swamper”. What is involved in this job? What does it tell us about his place on the ranch?
3. George accuses Candy of being “nosey”. Do you agree? What does this tell us about both characters?
4. “A guy on a ranch don’t never listen nor he don’t ast no questions.” What does this tell us about ranchmen and their feelings?