Questions

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immutability never lies

1/1 point (graded)

Which of the following are correct? Check all that apply.

- [ ] 1. A class is immutable if all of its fields are final
- [x] 2. A class is immutable if instances of it always represent the same value
- [x] 3. Instances of an immutable class can be safely shared
- [ ] 4. Objects can be made immutable using defensive copying
- [ ] 5. Immutability allows us to reason about global properties instead of local ones

✔

Explanation

Option 1 is false because final fields may still point to *mutable* objects, so merely having final references is insufficient.
Option 2 is the definition of immutable objects; (3) is one of the major benefits of immutability.
Defensive copying is a strategy for preventing sharing of (mutable) objects, not for making them immutable (4).
The need for global reasoning is a negative consequence of *mutability* because contracts expand to cover more parts of the program over more time.
Immutability allows us to reason locally, instead of globally (5).

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