Verb Tense Practice Exercise

A. Choose the best verb form to complete the sentences. Discuss your choice with a partner. More than one answer might be possible. If so, when might each answer be correct?

1. The book ______ about a stolen painting.
   a. is  b. was  c. has been

2. The Internet ____________ part of everyday life.
   a. becomes  b. became  c. has become

3. Experts ____________ changing weather patterns.
   a. study  b. studied  c. have studied

4. Television advertising ____________ rapidly in the 1950s and 60s.
   a. expand  b. expanded  c. has expanded

5. Since the town ____________ by a hurricane, revenue from tourism has decreased.
   a. has hit  b. has been hit  c. was hit

6. I ____________ the date of the quiz.
   a. changed  b. am changed  c. have changed

7. ____________ Jim’s email?
   a. Do you see?  b. Did you see?  c. Have you seen?

8. The disease ____________ thousands of people every year.
   a. affects  b. affected  c. has affected

B. Choose a topic you have studied recently. Write a paragraph to answer these questions: What is the topic? What have you learned about it? What did people say about it in the past? What has changed? What is the current situation?
ANSWER KEY

1. probably “a”, but possibly “b”
2. probably “c”, but possibly “b”
3. probably “c”, but possibly “a” or “b”
4. “b”
5. “c”
6. probably “c” but possibly “a”
7. “b” or “c”
8. probably “a”, possibly “c”, less likely “b”