In the news

Lead-in

1 Work in pairs. Do you know what these prizes (1–6) are for? Discuss with your partner, then match them with the descriptions (a–f).

1	Grammy Awards	....	**a**	Writing and Journalism Prize
2	Pulitzer Prize	....	**b**	International Mathematics Prize
3	BAFTA Awards	....	**c**	US music prize (classical and popular)
4	Man Booker Prize	....	**d**	British fiction book prize
5	Ryder Cup	....	**e**	British film and TV prize
6	Fields Medal	....	**f**	Winner of USA vs Europe Golf Competition

2 ▶ 71.1 Listen to a brief introduction to the Longitude Prize and answer the questions.

1 Why is it called the Longitude Prize? ....

2 What do you have to do to win it? ....

3 What is the prize? ....

3 The public have to decide between six key scientific problems facing the world today. What do you think they are?

Input

1 One of the key problems chosen was dementia. What do you know about this disease? Talk to your group.

2 Work in pairs. Mark these statements about dementia true or false.

1 Dementia is a disease that affects the brain.

2 Someone is diagnosed with dementia every four minutes.

3 The number of cases of dementia is rising.

4 It is usually older people who get dementia.

5 It doesn't affect young people in any way.

3 ▶ 71.2 Listen to a team of students discussing the problem of dementia as the potential Longitude prize winner.

1 Check your answers to 2 above.

2 What exactly would the prize money be used for as regards dementia?

....

3 Why is one speaker not convinced about choosing the problem of dementia for the prize?

....

Language focus

1 ▶**71.3** Listen to the first part of the conversation again and fill in the missing words:

S So, what's the next problem? Can you tell us about the one you've been looking at, Carlos?

C Yes. The problem is dementia. Dementia is a slow decline in brain functions, which interferes with people's ability to live a normal life. .... [1] that not only is it an awful disease, but it is also costing society an increasing amount to look after these people. .... [2] just about under control, but .... [3] the problem is growing. .... [4] someone is diagnosed with the disease every four seconds and cases are expected to soar from 44 million now to 135 million by 2050. The challenge would be to develop affordable technological solutions that would enable dementia sufferers to live independently for longer.

2 The expressions in the text above can all be used to present a problem. Add them to the table below and think of a heading for the other two sections.

Presenting the problem	1	2 ....
	I'd argue that..	*I agree absolutely.*
	Personally, I support this option because..	*I see what you mean.*
	In my opinion, it's a problem which is going to touch us all.	*But don't you think that..*
	The way I see it, if we don't do anything the problem is just going to …	*You could be right.*
	Shouldn't we choose a problem which …	
	I'm in two minds about that one.	

3 Add these expressions to the table.

If you ask me, we need to …

I don't entirely agree.

The problem we need to solve is …

Currently, the situation is …

I couldn't agree more.

I feel we need to prioritise …

… is much more important than …

I'm having second thoughts about …

The problem with your idea is that …

4 Use the words to write complete sentences using expressions from above.

1 difficulty / face / people / live / longer / so / number / dementia sufferers / increase

----

2 need / employ / more dementia carers / ask me

----

3 problem / idea / cost / lot of money

----

4 fact / 15 people / diagnose / dementia / every minute

----

5 two minds / better / spend money / fund research or / care for patients

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6 could / right / not really affect / young people

Task

1 Work in groups. Your teacher will give you a card with some information about one of the other problems considered for the Longitude Prize. Read about your problem and prepare to present it to your group. Try to think of arguments for awarding your problem the prize.

2 Present your problem to your group. Discuss each one and try to decide which problem should be awarded the Longitude Prize.

3 Explain your decision to the class.

Review