

16 gigabytes

We were born one morning when the sun didn't shine,
We picked up our laptops and we walked to the mine,
We loaded 16 gigabytes of Elsevier text,
And we said to ourselves: "What the hell do we do next?"

Chorus:

We loaded 16 gigabytes and what did we get?
Another day older and deeper in debt,
St Peter don't you call us cause we can't go!
We still have to read 200 gigas or so!

Sweat rolled down as we started to dig,
No article too small, no corpus too big,
At the end of the day, we had thousands of files,
Dozens of programs and printouts in piles,

Chorus:

We loaded 16 gigabytes and what did we get?
Another day older and deeper in debt,
St Peter don't you call us cause we can't go!
We still have to read a 100 gigas or so!

A question that is asked by all Grand Challengers:
Are we text miners or just text scavengers?
To find real meaning in scientific content,
Is the challenge we face with determined intent.

Chorus:

We loaded 16 gigabytes and what did we get?
Another day older and deeper in debt,
St Peter don't you call us cause we can't go!
We still have to read 50 gigas or so!

We loaded it all, with sore necks and red eyes,
So many analyses, so many tries,
Slowly we became a little more wise,
And now we've got our eyes on the prize,

Chorus:

We loaded all the text and what have we got,
A new tool which will help you a lot,
This competition makes us reach for the skies,
To the Elsevier Grand Challenge we will rise!

written by Michael Greenacre, 25 October 2008,
on the song **16 tons**, originally by Tennessee Ernie Ford
for example, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Joo90ZWrUkU>