WORLD'S FUNNIEST JOKE

"World's funniest joke" revealed after Internet vote By Reuters Dec 20, 2001 LONDON

The world's funniest joke, voted by popular demand over the Internet, was unveiled on Thursday by the British Association for the Advancement of Science (BA) after an experiment lasting three months.

Famed fictional detective Sherlock Holmes and his gruff assistant Doctor Watson pitch their tent while on a camping expedition, but in the middle of the night Holmes nudges Watson awake and questions him.

HOLMES: Watson, look up at the stars and tell me what you deduce.

WATSON: I see millions of stars, and if there are millions of stars, and if even a few of those have planets, it is quite likely there are some planets like earth, and if there are a few planets like earth out there might also be life.

HOLMES: Watson, you idiot! Somebody stole our tent.

The BA said the joke was the most popular among 10,000 submitted, being chosen as the best by 47 percent of the 100,000 people from more than 70 countries who took part.

