

RITS Principles

1. RITS is here to help.

The most important goal of RITS is to help students, teachers, administrators, parents, and all people involved in any way with education.

RITS helps *students* to...

- *understand* the subject material
- *assess* their own knowledge and skills
- *detect* and correct their misconceptions and blind spots.

RITS helps *teachers* to...

- *reduce* their workload related to correcting and grading assignments, reporting individual and aggregated progress, ...
- *focus* on the many important tasks that will always require a human person: designing the curriculum and selecting assignments, connecting knowledge from different areas, explaining current events and pressing issues in today's world

RITS helps *administrators* to...

- ...

2. The way is the goal, and vice versa.

Grades and assessments are only a means to an end, but not an end by themselves.

Every interaction with RITS should lead to a better *understanding* of the subject matter. RITS always *accepts* a correct answer. When an answer is correct but not yet optimal, such as $\frac{2}{4}$ in the case of canceling fractions, RITS accepts the answer *and leads the student* to the optimal solution.

3. Balance is key.

RITS is here to help, not frustrate. Guidance is given when necessary, by interjecting and solving subproblems. These subproblems can be skipped by students, because erroneous answers may be due to simple mistypes that need no lengthy interludes to correct. Students should be able to explore the system as freely as possible, if they desire to do so, while care is taken not to lose them to trial-and-error methods.