

Re: Early 19th/20th Century Algebra Texts

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- *From:* jsavard@xxxxxxxxxx
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hi.roodee@xxxxxxxxxx wrote:

Am I wrong in thinking that the core principles/rules that make up algebra can be taught in a very short time?

No, not at all.

However, while the basic principles that underlie arithmetic can be taught in a very short time, proficiency in carrying out arithmetical operations by hand requires extensive practice.

And since this was considered the criterion of real learning back then, it was the goal of texts in algebra and geometry to bring about facility in carrying out the base operations – and in young, unmotivated learners.

John Savard

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