RTF (which stands for Rich Text Format) is a document formatting language that uses simple commands to specify the formatting of a document. These commands, or tags, as they are called, are ASCII strings, like \par (the tag that marks *the beginning of a new paragraph*) or \b (the tag that turns on the *bold style*).

RTF docuemnts don't contain special characters and can be exchanged among different operating systems and computers, as long as there is an RTF capable application to read the document.