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These commands produce the list contained in box register $\langle register \rangle$ and make that box register void. \unbox applies to box registers containing hboxes and \unvbox applies to box registers containing vboxes. You should use these commands in preference to \unbcopy and \unvcopy (see below) when you don't care about what's in the box register after you've used it, so as not to exhaust TEX's memory by filling it with obsolete boxes.

Example:

\unhbox0 \unhbox1

- % \box0 \box1 would set two hboxes side by side
- % (and produce a badly overfull line).

\box1 % produces nothing

produces:

The Mock Turtle sighed deeply, and drew the back of one flapper across his eyes. He tried to speak, but sobs choked his voice.