

`\write <number> { <token list> }`

This command tells T_EX to write *<token list>* to the file associated with the output stream designated by *<number>*. It generates a whatsit that becomes part of a box. The actual writing does not take place until T_EX ships out that box to the .dvi file, unless you've preceded the `\write` with `\immediate`.

For a `\write` that is not immediate, T_EX does not expand macros in *<token list>* until the token list is actually written to the file. The macro expansions follow the same rules as `\edef` (p. 'edef'). In particular, any control sequence that is not the name of a macro is written as `\escapechar` followed by the control sequence name and a space. Any '#' tokens in *<token list>* are doubled, i.e., written as '##'.

If *<number>* is not in the range from 0 to 15, T_EX writes *<token list>* to the log file. If *<number>* is greater than 15 or isn't associated with an output stream, T_EX also writes *<token list>* to the terminal.

Example:

```
\def\aa{a a}
\write\auxfile{\hbox{$x#y$} \aa}
% Writes the string '\hbox {$x##y$} a a' to \auxfile.
```