```
\newcount                    \newread
\newdimen                    \newwrite
\newskip                     \newfam
\newmuskip                   \newinsert
\newtoks                     \newlanguage
\newbox
```

These commands reserve and name an entity of the indicated type:

- `\newcount`, `\newdimen`, `\newskip`, `\newmuskip`, `\newtoks`, `\newbox` each reserve a register of the indicated type.
- `\newread` and `\newwrite` reserve an input stream and an output stream respectively.
- `\newfam` reserves a family of math fonts.
- `\newinsert` reserves an insertion type. (Reserving an insertion type involves reserving several different registers.)
- `\newlanguage` reserves a set of hyphenation patterns.

You should use these commands whenever you need one of these entities, other than in a very local region, in order to avoid numbering conflicts.

There's an important difference among these commands:

- The control sequences defined by `\newcount`, `\newdimen`, `\newskip`, `\newmuskip`, and `\newtoks` each designate an entity of the appropriate type. For instance, after the command:

  ```
  \newdimen\listdimen
  ```

  the control sequence `\listdimen` can be used as a dimension.
- The control sequences defined by `\newbox`, `\newread`, `\newwrite`, `\newfam`, `\newinsert`, and `\newlanguage` each evaluate to the *number* of an entity of the appropriate type. For instance, after the command:

  ```
  \newbox\figbox
  ```

  the control sequence `\figbox` must be used in conjunction with a `\box`-like command, e.g.:

  ```
  \setbox\figbox = \vbox{...}
  ```