1

If TEX is in vertical mode, as it is after ending a paragraph, this command inserts the \parskip interparagraph glue, puts TEX into horizontal mode, and starts an unindented paragraph. It has no effect in horizontal mode, i.e., within a paragraph. Starting a paragraph with \noindent thus cancels the indentation by \parindent that would normally occur there.

A common use of \noindent is to cancel the indentation of the first line of a paragraph when the paragraph follows some displayed material.

Example:

\parindent = 1em

Tied round the neck of the bottle was a label with the words \smallskip \centerline{EAT ME}\smallskip \noindent beautifully printed on it in large letters.

produces:

Tied round the neck of the bottle was a label with the words

EAT ME

beautifully printed on it in large letters.