`\lastkern`
`\lastskip`
`\lastpenalty`
`\lastbox`

These control sequences yield the value of the last item on the current list. They aren't true commands because they can only appear as part of an argument. If the last item on the list isn't of the indicated type, they yield a zero value (or an empty box, in the case of `\lastbox`). For example, if the last item on the current list is a kern, `\lastkern` yields the dimension of that kern; if it isn't a kern, it yields a dimension of 0.

Using `\lastbox` has the additional effect of removing the last box from the list. If you want the original `\lastbox` to remain on the list, you have to add a copy of it to the list. `\lastbox` is not permitted in a math list or in the main vertical list.

These control sequences are most useful after macro calls that might have inserted entities of the indicated kinds.

Example:

```
\def\a{two\kern 15pt}
one \a\a\hskip 2\lastkern three\par
% Get three times as much space before ‘three’.
\def\a{\hbox{two}}
one \a
\setbox0 = \lastbox % Removes ‘two’.
three \box0.
```

produces:

one two two three
one three two.