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\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.:

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