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\input \langle filename \rangle

This command tells T_EX to read its input from file $\langle filename \rangle$. When that file is exhausted, T_EX returns to reading from its previous input source. You can nest input files to any level you like (within reason).

When you're typesetting a large document, it's usually a good idea to structure your main file as a sequence of \input commands that refer to the subsidiary parts of the document. That way you can process the individual parts easily as you're working on drafts. It's also a good practice to put all of your macro definitions into a separate file and summon that file with an \input command as the first action in your main file.

TEX uses different rules for scanning file names than it does for scanning tokens in general (see p. 'file+name'). If your implementation expects file names to have extensions (usually indicated by a preceding dot), then TEX provides a default extension of .tex.

Example:

\input macros.tex
\input chap1 % equivalent to chap1.tex