

^{secondprinting}
`\read <number> to <control sequence>`

This command tells T_EX to read a line from the file associated with the input stream designated by *<number>* and assign the tokens on that line to *<control sequence>*. The control sequence then becomes a parameterless macro. No macro expansion takes place during the reading operation. If the line contains any unmatched left braces, T_EX will read additional lines until the braces are all matched. If T_EX reaches the end of the file without matching all the braces, it will complain.

If *<number>* is greater than 15 or hasn't been associated with a file using `\openin`, T_EX prompts you with '*<control sequence>* =' on your terminal and waits for you to type a line of input. It then assigns the input line to *<control sequence>*. If *<number>* is less than zero, it reads a line of input from your terminal but omits the prompt.

Example:

```
\read\auxfile to \holder
% Expanding \holder will produce the line just read.
```