1

These two parameters jointly specify "hanging indentation" for a paragraph. The hanging indentation indicates to TEX that certain lines of the paragraph should be indented and the remaining lines should have their normal width. \hangafter determines which lines are indented, while \hangindent determines the amount of indentation and whether it occurs on the left or on the right:

- Let n be the value of \hangafter. If n < 0, the first -n lines of the paragraph will be indented. If $n \ge 0$, all but the first n lines of the paragraph will be indented.
- Let x be the value of \hangindent. If $x \ge 0$, the lines will be indented by x on the left. If x < 0 the lines will be indented by -x on the right.

When you specify hanging indentation, it applies only to the next paragraph (if you're in vertical mode) or to the current paragraph (if you're in horizontal mode). TEX uses the values of \hangafter and \hangindent at the end of a paragraph, when it breaks that paragraph into lines.

Unlike most of the other paragraph-shaping parameters, \hangafter and \hangindent are reset to their default values at the start of each paragraph, namely, 1 for \hangafter and 0 for \hangindent. If you want to typeset a sequence of paragraphs with hanging indentation, use \everypar (p. '\everypar'). If you specify \hangafter and \hangindent as well as \parshape, TeX ignores the \hangafter and \hangindent.

Example:

\hangindent=6pc \hangafter=-2

This is an example of a paragraph with hanging indentation. In this case, the first two lines are indented on the left, but after that we return to unindented text.

produces:

This is an example of a paragraph with hanging indentation. In this case, the first two lines are indented on the left, but after that we return to unindented text. $\mathbf{2}$

Example:

\hangindent=-6pc \hangafter=1
This is another example of a paragraph with hanging indentation. Here, all lines after the first have been indented on the right. The first line, on the other hand, has been left unindented.

produces:

This is another example of a paragraph with hanging indentation. Here, all lines after the first have been indented on the right. The first line, on the other hand, has been left unindented.