1 smash
A test sentence.
   A smash
   Another test sentence.
   A second smash at the start and in the middle of a paragraph.

2 phantom
A test sentence.

   Another test sentence.
   at the start and of a paragraph.

3 hphantom
A test sentence.

   Another test sentence.
   at the start and of a paragraph.

4 vphantom
A test sentence.

   Another test sentence.
   at the start and of a paragraph.

5 big(
A test sentence.
   ( Another test sentence.
   (A big ( at the start and ) in the middle of a paragraph.
   And (a) \neq (a) in math.
   And also x)
6  \texttt{thinspace}
A test sentence.

Another test sentence.
A few at the start and in the middle of a paragraph.

7  \texttt{negthinspace}
A test sentence.

Another test sentence.
A few at the start and in the middle of a paragraph.

8  \texttt{enspace and the like}
A test sentence.

Another test sentence.
A few at the start and in the middle of a paragraph.

Now the same with a quad:

Another test sentence.
A few at the start and in the middle of a paragraph.