

David Kastrup

Words Sorting

“Finnegans Wake” by James Joyce is a book that is not easily comprehensible. T_EX can systematize the approach to the text by confronting the reader with the longest, and consequently hardest words last.

```
\def\sorttext#1{\setbox0\vbox{{\language255\hsize=0pt\hfuzz\maxdimen
  \parfillskip0pt\noindent#1\par}\sortvlist\unpack}\unvbox0 }
\def\sortvlist{{\unskip\unpenalty \setbox0\lastbox
  \ifvoid0\noindent\else\setbox0\hbox{\unhbox0\ } \sortvlist\sortin\fi}}
\def\sortin{\setbox2\lastbox\ifdim\wd2>\wd0{\sortin}\fi\box2\box0}
\def\unpack{{\setbox0\lastbox\ifvoid0\indent\else\unpack\unhbox0\fi}}

\sorttext{riverrun, past Eve and Adam's, ... linsfirst loved livvy.}
```