Font options for the paragraph style

Three tabs of the Paragraph Style dialog are dedicated to settings controlling the appearance of the typeface: the *Font*, *Font Effects*, and *Position* pages. The first two tabs are straightforward. Many of the options are the same as those used when creating a character style, as discussed on page 200. Options that can be used when creating a paragraph style are described here.

Specifying a relative font size

You can specify a fixed font size (in points or other measurement units). In addition, if you are creating a style based on another style (linked style), you can specify a font size relative to that other style either as a percentage or as a plus or minus point value (–2pt or +5pt). Relative font sizes are commonly used for Web pages.

For example, the Heading 1 paragraph style is based on the Heading style. If the font size of the Heading style is 14pt, and the font size of the Heading 1 style is specified as 130%, the resultant font size of text in a paragraph formatted with the Heading 1 style is 14pt times 130% = 18.2pt.

To specify a percentage font size: in the Paragraph Style dialog, select the *Font* tab. In the Size box, enter the percentage amount followed by the symbol % (Figure 210). Similarly, you can enter a plus or minus sign followed by the number of points to be added to or subtracted from the base font size.

To change from a relative font size back to an absolute font size, enter the desired font size in a specific measurement, such as points (denoted by the letters *pt*).
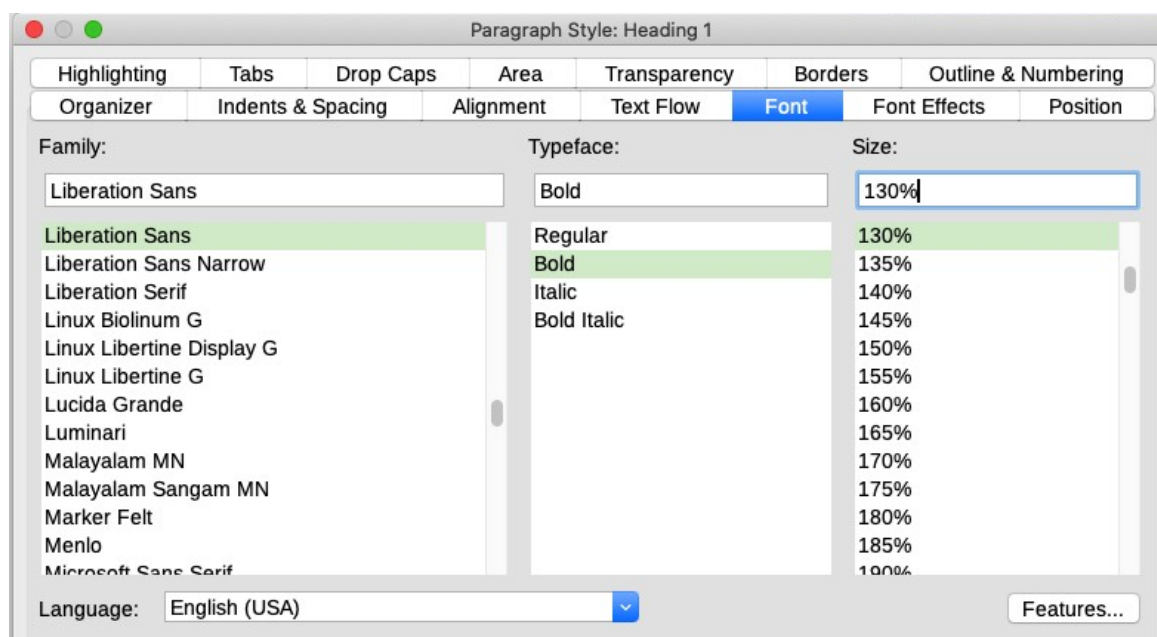

Figure 210: Selecting a type size based on a percentage

Selecting a language for a paragraph style

The language selected for a document (on **Tools > Options > Language Settings > Languages**) determines the dictionary used for spelling, thesaurus, hyphenation, the decimal and thousands delimiter used, and the default currency format. You can only use a language whose dictionary is installed.

Within the document, you can apply a separate language to any paragraph style. This setting has priority over the language of the whole document.

On the *Font* page of the Paragraph Style dialog, languages with installed dictionaries are marked in the Language list by a small icon (Figure 211). When checking spelling, Writer will use the correct dictionary for paragraphs with this style.