*Interviewer*: Is studying computer science the best way to prepare to be a programmer?

Bill Gates: No. the best way to prepare is to write programs, and to study great programs that other people have written... You got to be willing to read other people's code, then write your own, then have other people review your code. You've got to want to be in this incredible feedback loop where you get the world-class people to tell you what you're doing wrong.