Description:

List the 5 steps in the software development life cycle and provide a brief description of each.  Describe any experience you have had with the software development life cycle.

What is pseudocode and how can it be helpful for programmers.  Describe any experience you have had using pseudocode.

Describe experience you have had with using any of the programming tools described in Chapter 1

The five steps in the software development cycle:

1. Analyze: before any programming can begin, the problem must be understood. It should be determined what input will be put into the program, and what results are desired as output.
2. Design: this is where the path from the input to the output determined in step one is planned. Flowcharts and pseudocode allow the solution to be broken into small tasks to ease coding in later steps.
3. Code: in this step, the solution is translated into actual computer code and entered into the computer.
4. Test and correct: the program is tested to determine it is working as desired, as well as finding errors in the code.
5. Complete the documentation: In this step, documentation is created for future programmers who may work on the code to help them understand how things were done. Documentation is also created for the users of the program as well.

I have some experience with the software development lifecycle, but only in a learning environment in previous programming classes.

Pseudocode is used in the development of a computer program, but is not an actual programming language. Because it uses statement in plain English instead of symbols, it is easier to use in the planning stages than a flowchart. It is also helpful because it allows programmers to describe what they want to happen at a certain step in the solution, without having to know how to fully complete the step itself quite yet.

As stated earlier, I have taken previous courses in programming and I am familiar with the steps of the software development lifecycle. I know how to create flowcharts, but I strongly despise them and prefer pseudocode and hierarchy charts. I will admit flowcharts do have their place, and I will use them if needed.