

① Language Evaluation Criteria -

Characteristic	Readability	Witability	Reliability
Simplicity	✓	✓	✓
Orthogonality	✓	✓	✓
Data Types	✓	✓	✓
Syntax Design	✓	✓	✓
Support for Abstraction		✓	✓
Expressivity		✓	✓
Type Checking			✓
Exception Handling			✓
Restricted Aliasing			✓

The fourth primary criterion is 'cost', which is not included in the table because it is only slightly related to the other criteria and the characteristics that influence them.

→ Readability - Ease with which programs can be read and understood

Simplicity - language should be as small as possible avoid redundant feature

Orthogonality - A relatively small set of primitive constructs can be combined in a relatively small number of ways to build the control and data structures of the language.

Data Types - It should be defined clearly with meaning.

Syntax Design - Special words and 'form and meaning' affects readability

→ Witability - How easy to create or write a program for given problem.

Support for abstraction - Need to able to define and utilize abstraction

Expressivity - provide convenient ways for specifying computation

→ Reliability - Program performs to its specification under all conditions

Type checking - Testing for type errors in a given program

Exception handling - Ability to intercept run-time errors.

Restricted aliasing - Two or more distinct names that can be used to access the same memory cell.

② Influences on language design -

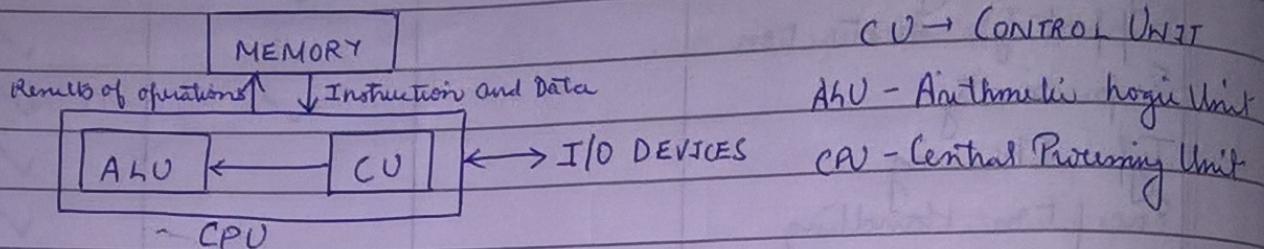
Factors that influences the base design of programming languages.

(1) language evaluation criteria

(2) Computer architecture

(3) Programming design methodologies

Computer architecture (Von Neumann Architecture) -



Programming Design methodologies -

1960 → Structured programming (Algol, ADA)

1970 → procedure-oriented programming (C, COBOL, FORTRAN, PASCAL)

late 1970s → data-oriented programming (SIMULA 67)

early 1980s → Object oriented programming (C++, JAVA, Smalltalk)

③ language Categories -

Imperative, functional, logic and object oriented.

Imperative - Uses variables, assignment statements & iteration

Functional - Uses functions, parameters & recursion

Logic - Uses facts and rules

Object oriented - Uses data abstraction, inheritance & dynamic method binding

④ Programming Paradigms -

It provides the view that the programmer has of the execution of the program. There are mainly four computational models that describe most programming today -

(1) Imperative or procedural programming / languages

(2) Functional or applicative programming / languages

(3) logical or Rule-based programming / languages

(4) Object oriented programming / languages.

Imperative languages -

They are command driven or statement oriented languages. A program consists of a sequence of statements, and the execution of each statement causes the computer to change the value of one or more locations in its memory.

Syntax - Statement 1;

Statement 2;

Statement n;

Eg - C, C++, FORTRAN, PASCAL, ADA

Functional languages -

Here we look at the functions that must be applied to initial machine state, by accessing the initial set of variables and combine them in a way that leads to the problem solution.

Syntax - function_n (.... function₂ (function₁ (data) ...))

Eg - LISP, ML

Logical languages -

It checks for the presence of a certain enabling condition and when present, executes an appropriate action.

Syntax - enabling condition₁ → action₁

enabling condition₂ → action₂

enabling condition_n → action_n

Eg - Prolog

Object-oriented programming (OOP) -

It creates partitioned memory area for both data and functions

that can be used as templates for creating copies of such modules on demand

Object A

DATA
FUNCTIONS

Object B

DATA
FUNCTIONS

Object C

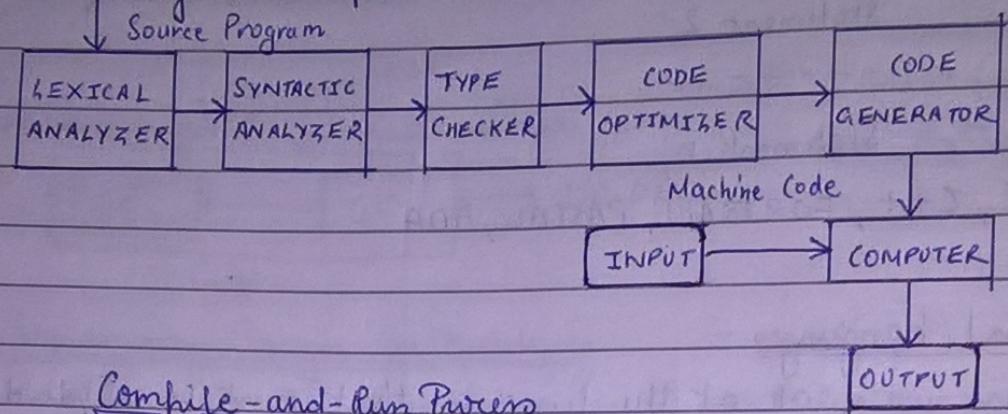
DATA
FUNCTIONS

Eg - SmallTalk, C++, JAVA

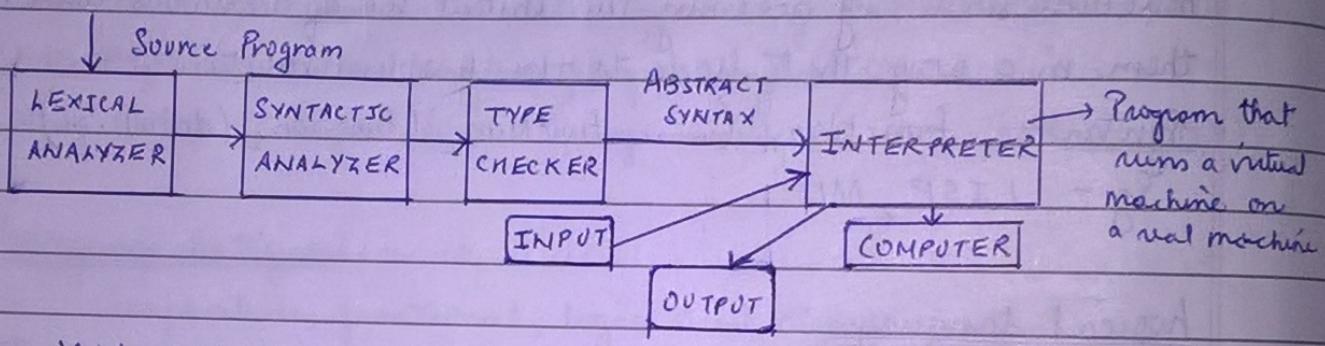
⑤ Programming language Implementation -

An implementation of a programming language requires that programs in the language be analyzed, and then translated into a form that can be either:-

- (1) Run by a computer (i.e. "Real Machine") called compiling
- (2) Run by an interpreter (i.e. "Virtual Machine") called interpreting.



Compile-and-Run Process



Virtual Machines and Interpreter

⑥ Programming Environments -

A programming environment is the collection of tools used in the development of software. This collection may consist of only a file system, a text editor, a linker, and a compiler, or it may include a large collection of integrated tools, each accessed through a uniform user interface.

Eg.: UNIX (1970s), Borland JBuilder, Microsoft Visual Studio .NET (C#, Visual Basic .NET, JScript, F#, C++/CLI), Netbeans (Java, JavaScript, Ruby, PHP)

⑦ Issues in language Translation -

→ Syntax -

It describes the structure of programs without any consideration of their meaning.

Key criteria concerning syntax -

Readability, Writeability, Verifiability, Translatability and lack of ambiguity.

Basic Syntactic concepts -

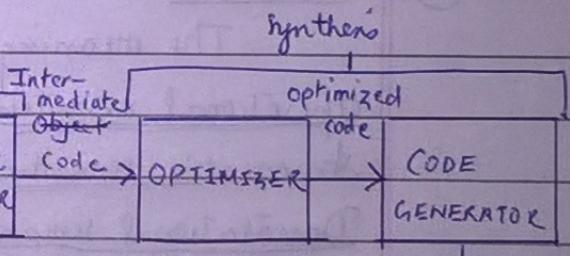
Character set (Alphabets), Identifiers (string of letter or digits usually begins with a letter), Operator symbols (-, +, *, /), Keywords, Noise words (optional words to improve readability), Comments, Blanks, Delimiters (used to denote the beginning and the end of syntactic constructs), Expressions, Statements.

Overall program - subprogram structure -

- (1) Separate subprogram definitions → separate compilation, linked at load time
- (2) Separate data definitions → General approach in OOP
- (3) Nested subprogram definitions ↗
- (4) Separate interface definitions → C/C++ Header files.
- (5) Data description separated from executable statements
- (6) Unspecified subprogram definitions

→ Stages in Translation

Analysis



Lexical Analysis (Scanning) -

Identifying the tokens :- keywords, identifiers, constants.

Syntactic Analysis (Parsing) - determining the structure of the program.

Semantic Analysis - Assigning meaning to the syntactic structures.

Some Semantic tasks - symbol-table maintenance, error detection, Macro processing, insertion of implicit information.

Optimization → Removing redundant statements

Code Generation - obtaining the object code of the program

Linking and Loading - obtaining the executable code of the program

⑧ Context Free Grammar (CFG) -

A context free grammar or CFG is represented by 4-tuple (V, T, P, S) where

$V \rightarrow$ set of variables or non-terminals (phrase structures)

$T \rightarrow$ set of terminals (words or token symbols)

$P \rightarrow$ set of productions (produce the strings of language)

$S \rightarrow$ Starting variable

⑨ Backus-Naur Form (BNF) - (equivalent to CFG)

If CFG productions has used only the metasymbols " \rightarrow " and " $|$ ". (Sometimes parentheses are allowed to group things together)
It is used to describe another language.

⑩ Parse Tree - A hierarchical representation of a derivation

⑪ Semantics -

The meaning given to the various syntactic constructs.

Operational semantics - how a computation is performed

Axiomatic semantics $\stackrel{\text{define}}{\sim}$ meaning of the program implicitly

Denotational semantics - what is computed by giving a mathematical object

Algebraic semantics - describe the meaning of the program by defining a algebra

Translation semantics - how to translate a program into an other language.