Computer programmers are those who write computer software. Provided the functions in a library follow the appropriate run-time conventions (e.g., method of passing arguments), then these functions may be written in any other language. Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process. Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated code. However, with the concept of the stored-program computer introduced in 1949, both programs and data were stored and manipulated in the same way in computer memory. Popular modeling techniques include Object-Oriented Analysis and Design (OOAD) and Model-Driven Architecture (MDA). Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem. Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks.

Trial-and-error/divide-and-conquer is needed: the programmer will try to remove some parts of the original test case and check if the problem still exists. Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications. Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems. Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected. Readability is important because programmers spend the majority of their time reading, trying to understand, reusing and modifying existing source code, rather than writing new source code. After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug. Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages. Many programmers use forms of Agile software development where the various stages of formal software development are more integrated together into short cycles that take a few weeks rather than years. The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging). The first compiler related tool, the A-0 System, was developed in 1952 by Grace Hopper, who also coined the term 'compiler'. Assembly languages were soon developed that let the programmer specify instruction in a text format (e.g., ADD X, TOTAL), with abbreviations for each operation code and meaningful names for specifying addresses. In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form. Programmers typically use high-level programming languages that are more easily intelligible to humans than machine code, which is directly executed by the central processing unit. One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis. In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form.