These compiled languages allow the programmer to write programs in terms that are syntactically richer, and more capable of abstracting the code, making it easy to target varying machine instruction sets via compilation declarations and heuristics. Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages. Programming languages are essential for software development. Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications. There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those 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. Proficient programming usually requires expertise in several different subjects, including knowledge of the application domain, details of programming languages and generic code libraries, specialized algorithms, and formal logic. The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging). Proficient programming usually requires expertise in several different subjects, including knowledge of the application domain, details of programming languages and generic code libraries, specialized algorithms, and formal logic. There are many approaches to the Software development process. One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis. It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages. Programmable devices have existed for centuries. A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it. Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems. In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form. 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. After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug. A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling). The first computer program is generally dated to 1843, when mathematician Ada Lovelace published an algorithm to calculate a sequence of Bernoulli numbers, intended to be carried out by Charles Babbage's Analytical Engine. Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation. New languages are generally designed around the syntax of a prior language with new functionality added, (for example C++ adds object-orientation to C, and Java adds memory management and bytecode to C++, but as a result, loses efficiency and the ability for low-level manipulation). 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. Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem.