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.

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. One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis. Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. In 1206, the Arab engineer Al-Jazari invented a programmable drum machine where a musical mechanical automaton could be made to play different rhythms and drum patterns, via pegs and cams. However, readability is more than just programming style. Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation. Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem. The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging). One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis. Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries. However, because an assembly language is little more than a different notation for a machine language, two machines with different instruction sets also have different assembly languages. Languages form an approximate spectrum from "low-level" to "high-level"; "low-level" languages are typically more machine-oriented and faster to execute, whereas "high-level" languages are more abstract and easier to use but execute less quickly. By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers. Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process. For example, when a bug in a compiler can make it crash when parsing some large source file, a simplification of the test case that results in only few lines from the original source file can be sufficient to reproduce the same crash. While these are sometimes considered programming, often the term software development is used for this larger overall process – with the terms programming, implementation, and coding reserved for the writing and editing of code per se. Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries. Programming languages are essential for software development. Some languages are more prone to some kinds of faults because their specification does not require compilers to perform as much checking as other languages. The academic field and the engineering practice of computer programming are both largely concerned with discovering and implementing the most efficient algorithms for a given class of problems. For example, COBOL is still strong in corporate data centers often on large mainframe computers, Fortran in engineering applications, scripting languages in Web development, and C in embedded software. Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks. Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation.