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. Programmable devices have existed for centuries. Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users. 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. 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. 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. Programmable devices have existed for centuries. After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug. 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. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones. Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages.

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. Trade-offs from this ideal involve finding enough programmers who know the language to build a team, the availability of compilers for that language, and the efficiency with which programs written in a given language execute. 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. The first compiler related tool, the A-0 System, was developed in 1952 by Grace Hopper, who also coined the term 'compiler'. However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837. After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug. 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. In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" - a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them. It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones. The following properties are among the most important: In computer programming, readability refers to the ease with which a human reader can comprehend the purpose, control flow, and operation of source code. The following properties are among the most important: In computer programming, readability refers to the ease with which a human reader can comprehend the purpose, control flow, and operation of source code. 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. They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones.