Allen Downey, in his book How To Think Like A Computer Scientist, writes:  
 Many computer languages provide a mechanism to call functions provided by shared libraries..  
It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability.  
Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected.  
Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems.  
For this purpose, algorithms are classified into orders using so-called Big O notation, which expresses resource use, such as execution time or memory consumption, in terms of the size of an input.  
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.  
However, readability is more than just programming style.  
 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.  
However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837.  
It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.  
FORTRAN, the first widely used high-level language to have a functional implementation, came out in 1957, and many other languages were soon developed—in particular, COBOL aimed at commercial data processing, and Lisp for computer research.  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.  
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.