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..  
They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones.  
It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages.  
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.  
 High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware.  
Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation.  
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.  
The choice of language used is subject to many considerations, such as company policy, suitability to task, availability of third-party packages, or individual preference.  
 It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages.  
 Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape.  
Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process.  
 Various visual programming languages have also been developed with the intent to resolve readability concerns by adopting non-traditional approaches to code structure and display.  
However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837.  
 A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling).  
 Computer programmers are those who write computer software.