Assembly languages were soon developed that let the programmer specify instruction in a text format (e..g., ADD X, TOTAL), with abbreviations for each operation code and meaningful names for specifying addresses.  
 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.  
They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones.  
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.  
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.  
Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use.  
 Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries.  
It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability.  
Expert programmers are familiar with a variety of well-established algorithms and their respective complexities and use this knowledge to choose algorithms that are best suited to the circumstances.  
 Following a consistent programming style often helps readability.  
Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems.  
 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.  
 Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation.  
However, with the concept of the stored-program computer introduced in 1949, both programs and data were stored and manipulated in the same way in computer memory.  
By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers.