Programming languages are essential for software development..  
 After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug.  
Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem.  
As early as the 9th century, a programmable music sequencer was invented by the Persian Banu Musa brothers, who described an automated mechanical flute player in the Book of Ingenious Devices.  
Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.  
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.  
Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment.  
 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.  
The Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a notation used for both the OOAD and MDA.  
Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help.  
Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
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.  
 Programmable devices have existed for centuries.  
 New languages are generally designed around the syntax of a prior language with new functionality added, (for example C++ adds object-orientation to C, and Java adds memory management and bytecode to C++, but as a result, loses efficiency and the ability for low-level manipulation).