There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks..  
 Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users.  
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.  
This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs.  
 After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug.  
 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).  
 Following a consistent programming style often helps readability.  
 In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form.  
 Debugging is often done with IDEs. Standalone debuggers like GDB are also used, and these often provide less of a visual environment, usually using a command line.  
 Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation.  
  
However, readability is more than just programming style.  
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.  
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.  
Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help.