Programming languages are essential for software development..  
Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems.  
For example, when a bug in a compiler can make it crash when parsing some large source file, a simplification of the test case that results in only few lines from the original source file can be sufficient to reproduce the same crash.  
 Following a consistent programming style often helps readability.  
This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs.  
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.  
Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated code.  
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.  
Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards.  
Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.  
Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help.  
Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process.  
 Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms).  
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.  
 Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications.