Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability..  
 Following a consistent programming style often helps readability.  
 Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape.  
For example, COBOL is still strong in corporate data centers often on large mainframe computers, Fortran in engineering applications, scripting languages in Web development, and C in embedded software.  
 A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling).  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
Proficient programming usually requires expertise in several different subjects, including knowledge of the application domain, details of programming languages and generic code libraries, specialized algorithms, and formal logic.  
 Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages.  
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.  
Provided the functions in a library follow the appropriate run-time conventions (e.g., method of passing arguments), then these functions may be written in any other language.  
By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers.  
Some languages are more prone to some kinds of faults because their specification does not require compilers to perform as much checking as other languages.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
 High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware.  
Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem.