Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected..  
 Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation.  
It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability.  
Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem.  
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.  
One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis.  
It involves designing and implementing algorithms, step-by-step specifications of procedures, by writing code in one or more programming languages.  
 Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms).  
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.  
 The academic field and the engineering practice of computer programming are both largely concerned with discovering and implementing the most efficient algorithms for a given class of problems.  
However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837.  
Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated code.  
Methods of measuring programming language popularity include: counting the number of job advertisements that mention the language, the number of books sold and courses teaching the language (this overestimates the importance of newer languages), and estimates of the number of existing lines of code written in the language (this underestimates the number of users of business languages such as COBOL).  
Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process.  
 Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications.