Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties..  
 Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications.  
 Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms).  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
 Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability.  
 The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging).  
Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected.  
Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process.  
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.  
 Readability is important because programmers spend the majority of their time reading, trying to understand, reusing and modifying existing source code, rather than writing new source code.  
However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837.  
In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages.  
 In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form.