Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation..  
Programmers typically use high-level programming languages that are more easily intelligible to humans than machine code, which is directly executed by the central processing unit.  
Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process.  
 In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form.  
 Whatever the approach to development may be, the final program must satisfy some fundamental properties.  
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.  
There are many approaches to the Software development process.  
 Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries.  
Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use.  
 Various visual programming languages have also been developed with the intent to resolve readability concerns by adopting non-traditional approaches to code structure and display.  
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.  
In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them.  
Later a control panel (plug board) added to his 1906 Type I Tabulator allowed it to be programmed for different jobs, and by the late 1940s, unit record equipment such as the IBM 602 and IBM 604, were programmed by control panels in a similar way, as were the first electronic computers.  
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.  
There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks.