They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones..  
 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.  
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.  
 The first computer program is generally dated to 1843, when mathematician Ada Lovelace published an algorithm to calculate a sequence of Bernoulli numbers, intended to be carried out by Charles Babbage's Analytical Engine.  
There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks.  
 Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries.  
 Following a consistent programming style often helps readability.  
However, with the concept of the stored-program computer introduced in 1949, both programs and data were stored and manipulated in the same way in computer memory.  
 Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape.  
  
It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.  
Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment.  
One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis.  
 High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware.  
 Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation.