FORTRAN, the first widely used high-level language to have a functional implementation, came out in 1957, and many other languages were soon developed—in particular, COBOL aimed at commercial data processing, and Lisp for computer research..  
 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.  
There exist a lot of different approaches for each of those tasks.  
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.  
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.  
 Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users.  
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.  
It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.  
 After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug.  
 Following a consistent programming style often helps readability.  
 A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling).  
Languages form an approximate spectrum from "low-level" to "high-level"; "low-level" languages are typically more machine-oriented and faster to execute, whereas "high-level" languages are more abstract and easier to use but execute less quickly.  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
  
 Debugging is often done with IDEs. Standalone debuggers like GDB are also used, and these often provide less of a visual environment, usually using a command line.