High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware..  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
  
 Computer programming or coding is the composition of sequences of instructions, called programs, that computers can follow to perform tasks.  
Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards.  
 Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation.  
However, readability is more than just programming style.  
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.  
 Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape.  
 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.  
 A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling).  
 Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users.  
 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.  
 In the 1880s, Herman Hollerith invented the concept of storing data in machine-readable form.  
They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones.