Allen Downey, in his book How To Think Like A Computer Scientist, writes:  
 Many computer languages provide a mechanism to call functions provided by shared libraries..  
  
Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem.  
They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones.  
 A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling).  
 After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug.  
When debugging the problem in a GUI, the programmer can try to skip some user interaction from the original problem description and check if remaining actions are sufficient for bugs to appear.  
Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use.  
  
The first compiler related tool, the A-0 System, was developed in 1952 by Grace Hopper, who also coined the term 'compiler'.  
 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.  
 The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging).  
Methods of measuring programming language popularity include: counting the number of job advertisements that mention the language, the number of books sold and courses teaching the language (this overestimates the importance of newer languages), and estimates of the number of existing lines of code written in the language (this underestimates the number of users of business languages such as COBOL).  
One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis.  
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.  
 High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware.