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..  
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.  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
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.  
 Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users.  
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.  
However, readability is more than just programming style.  
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.  
Use of a static code analysis tool can help detect some possible problems.  
There are many approaches to the Software development process.  
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.  
 High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware.  
 The first step in most formal software development processes is requirements analysis, followed by testing to determine value modeling, implementation, and failure elimination (debugging).  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
Trade-offs from this ideal involve finding enough programmers who know the language to build a team, the availability of compilers for that language, and the efficiency with which programs written in a given language execute.