The choice of language used is subject to many considerations, such as company policy, suitability to task, availability of third-party packages, or individual preference..  
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.  
 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.  
Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards.  
 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.  
 It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages.  
 Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation.  
One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis.  
However, readability is more than just programming style.  
 Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape.  
 A similar technique used for database design is Entity-Relationship Modeling (ER Modeling).  
 Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages.  
Provided the functions in a library follow the appropriate run-time conventions (e.g., method of passing arguments), then these functions may be written in any other language.  
For example, COBOL is still strong in corporate data centers often on large mainframe computers, Fortran in engineering applications, scripting languages in Web development, and C in embedded software.  
 Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms).