Programmable devices have existed for centuries..  
 High-level languages made the process of developing a program simpler and more understandable, and less bound to the underlying hardware.  
In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages.  
 Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape.  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
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.  
Their jobs usually involve:  
 Although programming has been presented in the media as a somewhat mathematical subject, some research shows that good programmers have strong skills in natural human languages, and that learning to code is similar to learning a foreign language.  
Sometimes software development is known as software engineering, especially when it employs formal methods or follows an engineering design process.  
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.  
Some of these factors include:  
 The presentation aspects of this (such as indents, line breaks, color highlighting, and so on) are often handled by the source code editor, but the content aspects reflect the programmer's talent and skills.  
It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability.  
However, because an assembly language is little more than a different notation for a machine language, two machines with different instruction sets also have different assembly languages.  
Some text editors such as Emacs allow GDB to be invoked through them, to provide a visual environment.  
Many programmers use forms of Agile software development where the various stages of formal software development are more integrated together into short cycles that take a few weeks rather than years.  
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.