Programmable devices have existed for centuries..  
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.  
In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages.  
 Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms).  
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.  
Many applications use a mix of several languages in their construction and use.  
 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.  
One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis.  
 Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications.  
This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs.  
They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones.  
However, with the concept of the stored-program computer introduced in 1949, both programs and data were stored and manipulated in the same way in computer memory.  
It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability.  
 Code-breaking algorithms have also existed for centuries.  
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.