To produce machine code, the source code must either be compiled or transpiled.  
Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem.  
The source code of a program is written in one or more languages that are intelligible to programmers, rather than machine code, which is directly executed by the central processing unit.  
He gave the first description of cryptanalysis by frequency analysis, the earliest code-breaking algorithm.  
Also, those involved with software development may at times engage in reverse engineering, which is the practice of seeking to understand an existing program so as to re-implement its function in some way.  
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.  
By the late 1960s, data storage devices and computer terminals became inexpensive enough that programs could be created by typing directly into the computers.  
Also, those involved with software development may at times engage in reverse engineering, which is the practice of seeking to understand an existing program so as to re-implement its function in some way.  
Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem.  
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.  
 Different programming languages support different styles of programming (called programming paradigms).  
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.  
Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.  
Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem.  
One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis.