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Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability.  
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Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help.  
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.  
This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs.  
It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability.  
However, Charles Babbage had already written his first program for the Analytical Engine in 1837.  
Transpiling on the other hand, takes the source-code from a high-level programming language and converts it into bytecode.  
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.  
Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.  
In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them.  
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