Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability.  
Expert programmers are familiar with a variety of well-established algorithms and their respective complexities and use this knowledge to choose algorithms that are best suited to the circumstances.  
Methods of measuring programming language popularity include: counting the number of job advertisements that mention the language, the number of books sold and courses teaching the language (this overestimates the importance of newer languages), and estimates of the number of existing lines of code written in the language (this underestimates the number of users of business languages such as COBOL).  
Proficient programming thus usually requires expertise in several different subjects, including knowledge of the application domain, specialized algorithms, and formal logic.  
It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.  
Compiling takes the source code from a low-level programming language and converts it into machine code.  
The purpose of programming is to find a sequence of instructions that will automate the performance of a task (which can be as complex as an operating system) on a computer, often for solving a given problem.  
Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated code.  
Normally the first step in debugging is to attempt to reproduce the problem.  
Compiling takes the source code from a low-level programming language and converts it into machine code.  
However, readability is more than just programming style.  
In 1206, the Arab engineer Al-Jazari invented a programmable drum machine where a musical mechanical automaton could be made to play different rhythms and drum patterns, via pegs and cams.  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them.  
He gave the first description of cryptanalysis by frequency analysis, the earliest code-breaking algorithm.