As early as the 9th century, a programmable music sequencer was invented by the Persian Banu Musa brothers, who described an automated mechanical flute player in the Book of Ingenious Devices.  
The following properties are among the most important:  
  
 In computer programming, readability refers to the ease with which a human reader can comprehend the purpose, control flow, and operation of source code.  
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.  
Also, specific user environment and usage history can make it difficult to reproduce the problem.  
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.  
It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.  
Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected.  
Compiling takes the source code from a low-level programming language and converts it into machine code.  
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.  
Proficient programming thus usually requires expertise in several different subjects, including knowledge of the application domain, specialized algorithms, and formal logic.  
 Programs were mostly entered using punched cards or paper tape.  
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.  
However, readability is more than just programming style.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
 Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications.