They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
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.  
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.  
Assembly languages were soon developed that let the programmer specify instruction in a text format (e.g., ADD X, TOTAL), with abbreviations for each operation code and meaningful names for specifying addresses.  
Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process.  
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.  
Unreadable code often leads to bugs, inefficiencies, and duplicated code.  
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One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis.  
 Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages.  
 After the bug is reproduced, the input of the program may need to be simplified to make it easier to debug.  
  
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This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs.