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.  
Compiling takes the source code from a low-level programming language and converts it into machine code.  
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.  
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It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability.  
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.  
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.  
 Some languages are very popular for particular kinds of applications, while some languages are regularly used to write many different kinds of applications.  
It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.  
 Programmable devices have existed for centuries.  
However, while these might be considered part of the programming process, often the term software development is more likely used for this larger overall process – whereas the terms programming, implementation, and coding tend to be focused on the actual writing of code.  
This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs.  
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