He gave the first description of cryptanalysis by frequency analysis, the earliest code-breaking algorithm.  
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.  
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.  
For this purpose, algorithms are classified into orders using so-called Big O notation, which expresses resource use, such as execution time or memory consumption, in terms of the size of an input.  
Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.  
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.  
Transpiling on the other hand, takes the source-code from a high-level programming language and converts it into bytecode.  
Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards.  
Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability.  
Also, those involved with software development may at times engage in reverse engineering, which is the practice of seeking to understand an existing program so as to re-implement its function in some way.  
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.  
To produce machine code, the source code must either be compiled or transpiled.  
Programming languages are essential for software development.  
Compiling takes the source code from a low-level programming language and converts it into machine code.  
Ideally, the programming language best suited for the task at hand will be selected.