Programming languages are essential for software development.  
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.  
However, with the concept of the stored-program computer introduced in 1949, both programs and data were stored and manipulated in the same way in computer memory.  
Text editors were also developed that allowed changes and corrections to be made much more easily than with punched cards.  
Many programmers use forms of Agile software development where the various stages of formal software development are more integrated together into short cycles that take a few weeks rather than years.  
It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.  
They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones.  
It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.  
Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation.  
Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process.  
 Machine code was the language of early programs, written in the instruction set of the particular machine, often in binary notation.  
 It is very difficult to determine what are the most popular modern programming languages.  
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.  
 Following a consistent programming style often helps readability.  
This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs.