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.  
Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process.  
A study found that a few simple readability transformations made code shorter and drastically reduced the time to understand it.  
One approach popular for requirements analysis is Use Case analysis.  
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 choice of language used is subject to many considerations, such as company policy, suitability to task, availability of third-party packages, or individual preference.  
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.  
For example, when a bug in a compiler can make it crash when parsing some large source file, a simplification of the test case that results in only few lines from the original source file can be sufficient to reproduce the same crash.  
Programming involves tasks such as analysis, generating algorithms, profiling algorithms' accuracy and resource consumption, and the implementation of algorithms (usually in a particular programming language, commonly referred to as coding).  
Methods of measuring programming language popularity include: counting the number of job advertisements that mention the language, the number of books sold and courses teaching the language (this overestimates the importance of newer languages), and estimates of the number of existing lines of code written in the language (this underestimates the number of users of business languages such as COBOL).  
Integrated development environments (IDEs) aim to integrate all such help.  
It is usually easier to code in "high-level" languages than in "low-level" ones.  
This can be a non-trivial task, for example as with parallel processes or some unusual software bugs.  
 Implementation techniques include imperative languages (object-oriented or procedural), functional languages, and logic languages.  
 Debugging is a very important task in the software development process since having defects in a program can have significant consequences for its users.