They are the building blocks for all software, from the simplest applications to the most sophisticated ones.  
Many factors, having little or nothing to do with the ability of the computer to efficiently compile and execute the code, contribute to readability.  
In the 9th century, the Arab mathematician Al-Kindi described a cryptographic algorithm for deciphering encrypted code, in A Manuscript on Deciphering Cryptographic Messages.  
Compilers harnessed the power of computers to make programming easier by allowing programmers to specify calculations by entering a formula using infix notation.  
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.  
Techniques like Code refactoring can enhance readability.  
Provided the functions in a library follow the appropriate run-time conventions (e.g., method of passing arguments), then these functions may be written in any other language.  
In 1801, the Jacquard loom could produce entirely different weaves by changing the "program" – a series of pasteboard cards with holes punched in them.  
The Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a notation used for both the OOAD and MDA.  
Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process.  
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It affects the aspects of quality above, including portability, usability and most importantly maintainability.  
The Unified Modeling Language (UML) is a notation used for both the OOAD and MDA.  
The source code of a program is written in one or more languages that are intelligible to programmers, rather than machine code, which is directly executed by the central processing unit.  
Scripting and breakpointing is also part of this process.