Compiler: Programming Language Translator

A compiler is a program that translates a high level language into machine code.

For example:
The Turbo Pascal Compiler translates a program written in Pascal into machine code that can be run on a PC.

Advantages of a compiler:
1. Fast in execution
2. The object/ executable code produced by a compiler can be distributed or executed without having to have the compiler present.
3. The object program can be used whenever required without the need of re-compilation.

Disadvantages of a compiler:
1. Debugging a program is much harder
2. When error is found, the whole program has to be re-compiled.