Drafting and developing exercise

You must be currently writing something for publication or as part of an application to do this exercise. Come back to it later if you're not working on anything now.

Try at least two new approaches to drafting a paper or proposal from this list:

- Start informally—write on paper or record yourself talking
- Time yourself
- Write the easy parts first
- Take breaks
- When you get bored with one section, work on another section
- Know the next step when you stop

Choose something quite different from your usual way of writing—e.g. if you always do it one section at a time, try skipping among them. Give yourself time to adjust to each approach—try it for at least a couple of pages.

Reflect on the new approaches:

1) How do you go about writing? How did you arrive at this method? Does it work well for you? If not, what challenges do you currently face when drafting?
2) Why did you choose the approaches you did? How much more or less effective was each one than your usual approach? Why do you think this is?
3) How helpful was each exercise in getting the writing done? How much faster or slower did you generate a page? Why do you think each approach was helpful or unhelpful in improving your speed? How would you change each one to make it more effective?
4) How did the new approaches improve the quality of your writing? Why do you think the exercises improved it in this way? How might you modify each approach to make it more effective in helping you generate an organized, coherent, logical piece of writing?