When to Use Quotations

“… do not quote excessively”

* When language is especially vivid or expressive.
* When exact wording is needed for technical accuracy.
* When it is important to let the debaters of an issue explain their position in their own words.
* When the words of an important authority lend weight to an argument.
* When language of a source is the topic of your discussion (as in an analysis or interpretation.)

\*\*MLA is written in present tense