The quadratic formula is used to find the roots of a quadratic equation, especially when a quadratic doesn't factorise.

The formula is negative b plus or subtract the square root of b squared subtract four times a times c all divided by two a.

Solve two x squared plus five x subtract four equals zero, rounding the answers to one decimal place.

Step 1 - Calculate the value of the discriminant b squared subtract four times a times c using a equals two, b equals five and c equals negative four.

So, the answer would be five squared, subtract four, times two, times negative four - which is 57.

Step two - substitute the discriminant and values of a, b and c into the quadratic formula.

Step three calculate both roots using negative five, subtract the square root of 57, divided by four and negative five, plus the square root of 57, divided by four.

The roots are then negative three point one three seven, which rounds to negative three point one, to one decimal place and zero point six three seven, which rounds to zero point six, to one decimal place.

Remember, use the quadratic formula for solving equations and round to the number of decimal places or significant figures you are asked for.