

The discriminant is the number $b^2 - 4ac$, and the solutions to a quadratic equation are given by the formula:

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

There will be no real solutions (but two complex solutions) precisely when $b^2 - 4ac < 0$, which is true here, because $b^2 - 4ac = -2$.