

To convert the decimal number -9.5 into a mixed number, follow these steps:

1. **Identify the whole number part:** The whole number part of -9.5 is -9 .
2. **Identify the decimal part:** The decimal part is 0.5 .
3. **Convert the decimal to a fraction:** The decimal 0.5 can be written as the fraction $\frac{1}{2}$ because 0.5 is equivalent to $\frac{5}{10}$, which simplifies to $\frac{1}{2}$.
4. **Combine the parts:** Now combine the whole number part and the fraction part to form the mixed number: $-9 \frac{1}{2}$.

Therefore, -9.5 as a mixed number is $-9 \frac{1}{2}$.