

## Dependent Clauses with *Subordinating Conjunctions*:

One type of dependent clause is introduced by a word (or words) called a *subordinating conjunction*. The clause does have a subject and a verb, but it begins with a *subordinating conjunction*. When a clause starts with a subordinating conjunction, the clause becomes **dependent**—it cannot stand alone.

The most common *subordinating conjunctions* are listed below:

after\*  
although  
as\*  
as if  
as long as  
as though  
because  
before\*  
even though  
if  
once  
provided  
since\*  
so that  
though  
till\*  
unless  
until\*  
when  
whenever  
where  
wherever  
while  
whether

\*These words may also function as prepositions.

When one of these subordinating conjunctions is placed before an independent clause, the clause can no longer stand by itself. It becomes **dependent**.

Robert rode the bus to town. (independent clause)

**When** Robert rode the bus to town. (dependent clause – incomplete sentence)