Dear all,

sorry for showing you this only now as I completely forgot about my promise. Anyway, if you wish to learn more about valency patterns, here’s what you can do:

1) Look at Alexander’s Longman English Grammar, pp. 4—10 (The simple sentence) where you can find a bunch of extra examples. There are, however, several things to bear in mind. Alexander distinguishes between 5 basic clause patterns; Pattern 2 stands for the copular pattern (S + V + SP / S + V + A), Pattern 5 for the complex transitive one (S + V + DO + OP). For some reason, he does not discuss the other complex transitive pattern S + V + DO + A. Mind you that Alexander uses the term complement instead of Biber et al.’s subject/object predicative.

2) Study Dušková’s contrastive grammar of English and Czech (Mluvnice současné angličtiny na pozadí češtiny, you can access the online version here <https://mluvniceanglictiny.cz/12.2>). As with Alexander, the term complement is used instead of subject/object predicate. Again, different grammar equals different categorization. Here, the part “Větné typy se slovesem sponovým” refers to the pattern S + V + SC, while the rest is under “Větné typy se slovesem plnovýznamovým v činném rodě”:

* “Větné typy se slovesem intrantizivním” contains both intransitive S + V, and copular S + V + A;
* “Větný typ se slovesem monotranzitivním” refers to the good old S + V + O;
* “Větný typ S-V-Oi-Od” talks about the ditransitive patter (S + V + IO + DO) and complex transitive patterns (S + V + DO + OP / S + V + DO + A).

3) Practice the patterns on an extra exercise from Biber et al. (exercises 3 and 4).

I hope that these sources will help you understand the topic a little bit better. I’ll upload all the materials in MS Teams; you can find them in our group’s files.

Cheers

David