



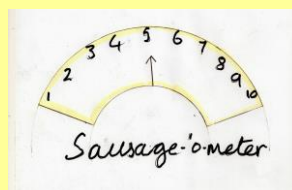
Rob's Reviews: About me, and how it all works...

Hello! I'm Rob, a 6'8" an amateur writer, historian, musician, martial artist and all-round jolly chap. In this section of the ITBS website, the Prof, my employer and long-standing friend, has asked me to review some of the very many interesting (and rare) publications in stock. It's my great hope that some of you will read more regularly if you see anything you like here, and hopefully find a new fascination with books. Anyway, enough about me, here's how it works:

Each review will come with a picture of the book's cover so you'll know what it looks like, and more usefully, I'll also include a box like this:

Author:	The name of the person/people who wrote the book
Genre:	Which of our categories you can find the book
Publisher:	Where it was published, by whom and when
ISBN:	Book code allowing you to look it up elsewhere
RRP:	Recommended Retail Price, always in GBP unless otherwise stated, +£2.80 p&p.

to help you decide if the book in question is what you're after. As a man who likes his grub, I've used the well-known (and extremely scientific) *sausage scale* to rate the books; 10 sausages out of 10 being a slap-up takeaway, and anything less than 6 being a two-week old school dinner.



I've detailed below the 6 categories into which our books have been divided (go back onto the *Rob's Reviews* homepage for the list of links to each review). Each has seen me attempt to blend my subjective personal knowledge and experience with an objective overview, the Prof donating £1 in 10 of any profits made to my MA fund. Have fun and enjoy! 😊

Rob



1. Aikido and Other Martial Arts

Click on these links for reviews on our bespoke collection of Martial Arts publications. Notably, I am *not* a lean, hard killing machine holding a black belt and several notches on it; I am just a 'normal' bloke who wants to improve himself by increasing my fitness and ability. My reviews reflect this; I'm still on a journey, rather than having arrived.

2. Chess for Young People

Click on these links for reviews on books about Chess. I'm no great player so have taken the liberty of swotting up a bit. Don't be fooled by the title of this section. Players of all ages can pick up a few tips here.

3. Drama and Literature

Click on these links for reviews on children's stories, general fiction and books about all things dramatic. In time this is likely to become a very large section!

4. Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics

Click on these links for reviews on books designed to assist students at and around GCSE level in Maths and the sciences.

Though I do have a degree in English, I've always been baffled by the science subjects and am retaking my GCSEs as a mature student. It is hoped therefore that my reviews will help the children studying for the first time as well as those like me, who may be coming to this type of study later in life.

5. History – Books and Work in Progress

Click on these links for reviews on our selection of history books, including the popular *Horrible History* series, which are informative and interesting for young and old alike. This section will soon include articles and links on the history of Carshalton, Britain, Japan and the Martial Arts.

I have been a keen amateur historian for many years, studying Medieval History as part of my recently completed degree. Watch this space for regular instalments of my history of Britain. Mine differs in that while I'll have researched everything I put down, I'll do everything in my power to filter out all jargon and words with an unnecessarily high syllable count.

6. Survival and Adventure

Click on these links for books about going off into the wide world. I'll also be including the odd entry about my own little trips here and there.