

Work Culture Around the World

Work culture is how people behave, communicate, and work together in different workplaces and countries. It includes things like how workers dress, how they talk to their bosses, and how they balance work and free (1)..... Let's explore some interesting work cultures from around the world!

In **Japan**, work culture is often very formal. Workers usually wear suits, even in hot (2)....., and use polite language when speaking to their managers. Teamwork is highly valued, and employees often make group decisions instead of working (3)..... In many Japanese companies, people stay late to finish their tasks or join colleagues for *nomikai* – after-work drinks – to strengthen relationships. However, the long hours can make it hard for workers to spend time with their families.

Sweden is famous for its focus on work-life balance. Many workers there follow a "*lagom*" lifestyle, which means "not too much, not too little." Offices in Sweden often have short coffee breaks called *fika*, where workers relax, chat, and enjoy snacks. Swedish companies usually have (4)..... work hours compared to other countries, and employees are encouraged to take holidays and spend time with their families. This creates a (5)..... and happy work environment.

In the **United States**, work culture is often competitive and focused on individual success. Workers are encouraged to share their ideas and work hard to achieve their goals. In many American offices, (6)..... dress codes, like jeans and t-shirts, are becoming common, especially in tech companies. Some workplaces also allow flexible hours or remote work. However, many workers only get a few weeks of paid vacation, which can lead to stress.

In **Brazil**, work culture is very social. Workers like to chat and build strong friendships with their colleagues. It's common to greet coworkers with a (7)..... or even a hug. Brazilian offices are often loud and lively, with lots of conversations happening at the same time. However, workers still respect their managers and take their responsibilities seriously.

In **Germany**, work culture is all about being on time and doing tasks efficiently. Workers respect schedules and (8)....., and meetings usually start exactly at the planned time. German employees often focus on their tasks without much small talk. However, they value quality work and take pride in their (9).....

Understanding work culture is important, especially if you want to work in another country. It helps you fit in, communicate better, and (10)..... misunderstandings.

Word Bank

casual, shorter, deadlines, papers, weather, avoid, time, alone, handshake, relaxed, results