Business culture in your country - Adverbs of frequency expressions discuss and agree

Use frequency expressions like “Once or twice a year” and “Almost never” to make general statements about business culture in your country. You can also make statements about smaller groups of people such as middle managers, directors or male office workers.

Possible topics
Arguing with managers
Asking for pay rises
Attending meetings and saying nothing
Attention to detail
Being direct (= say exactly what they mean)
Being indirect/ Be diplomatic
Bodily contact (shaking hands, hugs, patting on the back, etc)
Bowing
Brainstorming in meetings
Bullying
Business card holder
Celebrating employees’ birthdays
Chatting at the beginning of business meetings
Closing down group companies which are unsuccessful
Company structures (flat, hierarchical, etc)
Continuous improvement
Criticising other employees
Dealing with unnecessary staff
Decision making (making decisions before meetings, in meetings, by consensus, etc)
Demoting people
Doing overtime
Doing unpaid overtime
Downsizing
Drinking down in one
Drinks in meetings
Early retirement

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Efficiency
Employing inexperienced graduate recruits
Employing people who already have experience
Expanding into many unconnected kinds of business
Eye contact
Figurehead managers
Finishing conversations
Firing people (= Sacking people = Dismissing people)
First names
Getting drunk
Getting stressed
Giving gifts to business contacts
Giving reasons when apologising/ dealing with complaints
Going drinking with clients
Going drinking with colleagues
Going off topic in meetings
Going on holiday together
Going over your boss’s head
Going to colleagues’ houses for dinner
Golf
Having close relationships with the government
Humour
Independent directors
Interrupting/ Talking over each other
Job titles (specific or not, etc)
Leaders (personality, background, etc)
Making employees take language exams (TOEIC etc)
Management track
MBAs
Negotiating your own pay
Networking
Overtime (paid, unpaid, amount, etc)
Performance-related pay
Position of women
Public holidays
Putting short-term profit first
Quitting (over matters of principle, to set up your own start-up, etc)
Reading business books
Retirement
Sending employees to work for different group companies or suppliers
Seniority-based pay or promotion
Silence (thinking in silence, pauses between people speaking, etc)
Small talk (length, topics, situations, etc)
Snacks in meetings
Socialising with other employees’ families
Starting meetings on time
Staying in one company for life
Taking holidays (taking all the available time)
Taking risks
Temp staff
Toasting
Trade unions
Training (on the job, outside, paid, subsidized, etc)
Unnecessary meetings
Voting
Whistleblowers
Working too hard
Work-life balance
Xmas or New Year parties

**Homework**
Write a ten-sentence description of business culture in your country for a foreign employee who is going to move to the office in your country, dealing with the most important topics.