East

We live in time.

We are always at peace.

We are passive.

We like to contemplate.

We accept the world as it is.

We live in peace with nature.

Religion is our first love.

We delight in thinking about the meaning of life.

We believe in freedom of silence.

We lapse into meditation.

We marry first, then we love.

Our marriage is the beginning of a love affair.

It is an indissoluble bond.

Our love is mute.

We try to conceal it from the world.

Self-abnegation is the secret to our survival.

We are taught from the cradle to want less and less.

We glorify austerity.

Poverty is to us a badge of spiritual elevation.

In the sunset years of life, we renounce the world and prepare for the hereafter.

West

You live in space.

You are always on the move.

You are aggressive.

You like to act.

You try to change it according to your blueprint.

You try to impose your will on her.

Science is your passion.

You delight in physics.

You believe in freedom of speech.

You strive for articulation.

You love first, then marry.

Your marriage is the happy end of a romance.

It is a contract.

Your love is vocal.

You delight in showing it to others.

Self-assertiveness is the key to your success.

You are urged every day to want more and more.

You emphasize gracious living and enjoyment.

It is to you a sign of degradation.

You retire to enjoy the fruit of your labor.

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---East-West Cultural Differences (Tran, 1987)