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1.1 In the 3rd century BCE, Greek engineer Ctesibius invented the water clock, influencing timekeeping centuries later.

1.2 By 2020, hydropower accounted for 16% of global electricity production, with China, Brazil, and the US as the top generators.

1.3 The Sahara's ancient Lake Mega Chad (Section 3.2) was once larger than all the modern Great Lakes combined.

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2.1 The Impressionist painter Claude Monet completed over 250 paintings of water lilies between 1897 and 1926, focusing on reflection and light.

2.2 In 1854, John Snow's investigation of a London cholera outbreak (Section 4.1) was a milestone in public water sanitation.

2.3 The Mars rover Perseverance analyzed sediment layers in Jezero Crater in 2021, seeking clues to ancient water.

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3.1 The global average annual rainfall is about 990 millimeters (World Meteorological Organization, 2019).

3.2 At its peak around 6,000 years ago, Lake Mega Chad had an estimated area of 360,000 square kilometers (Section 1.3).

3.3 In 2010, researchers discovered extremophile bacteria living in subglacial Antarctic lakes, demonstrating that life can exist in water without sunlight.

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4.1 Dr. John Snow's mapping of the 1854 Broad Street cholera outbreak demonstrated the link between contaminated water and disease, revolutionizing epidemiology (see 2.2).

4.2 The Panama Canal, completed in 1914, uses enormous locks filled and emptied by 197 million liters of water per transit on average.

4.3 In 2018, Cape Town, South Africa nearly ran out of municipal water in the "Day Zero" crisis, highlighting the fragility of urban supply systems.

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5.1 Japan's Shinkansen viaducts use water spray systems for cooling tracks in extreme heat, a technique first implemented after the record 2011 heatwave.

5.2 In 1967, the first desalination plant capable of delivering more than 1,000 cubic meters/day began full operation in Kuwait.

5.3 The Maya civilization (Section 3.2) relied on intricate rainwater collection systems during frequent droughts in the Yucatán Peninsula.