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| Sommario/riassunto | In recent years a new form has emerged in the paradigm of the indefinite article, the so-called "extended short form" nen (Vogel 2006) as in: Ich hab' nen Mann gesehen. As little is known about the origin of this form (when was it used first, by whom, and in what contexts?), this paper will trace the history of nen using several corpora of colloquial German that cover language use in the 1960's, 1970's and 2000's (Pfeffer-Corpus, Freiburger-Corpus, Dialogstrukturen-Corpus, Emergency-Call-Corpus). Quantitative analyses reveal distinct patterns of variation, which indicate |

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