The timeline below shows some of the early tax issues faced by the federal government.

- **1790**: The Whiskey Rebellion occurs and is suppressed by the federal government.
- **1791**: Congress enacts the Whiskey Tax.
- **1815**: Congress adopts a tariff that protects U.S. infant industries from foreign competition.
- **1816**: The War of 1812 with Britain means that English goods are not available in the U.S.
- **1815**: The war ends; lower-priced British goods are sold in U.S. and compete with U.S. products.
- **1824**: The tariff is raised because Britain still competes with American industries.
- **1828**: The protective tariff is raised to 80 percent to protect U.S. industries, but it hurts the South.
- **1832**: The protective tariff is modified, but South Carolina declares the tariff "null, void, and no law" and threatens to leave the union if the federal government enforces the tariff.
- **1833**: Nullification ends when the federal government offers and South Carolina accepts the Compromise Tariff, which returns tax rates to 1816 levels by 1842.