

A Short Play About Tariffs, Part I

Host questions:

1. Where are you from?
2. How many of you were “War Hawks” who wanted war with Britain in 1812?
3. Mr. Calhoun, what does states' rights mean?
4. What is your opinion on this Tariff of 1828?
5. Some of you believe that the government should make internal improvements like roads, money to help businesses, and a national bank?
6. Mr. Clay, they call you “The Great Compromiser.” What does that name mean?
7. Mr. Webster, there's a quote you made recently that's becoming very famous; could you share that with us and tell us what it means?

Character Cards:

DANIEL WEBSTER:

- born in New Hampshire
- Represented Massachusetts in the House and Senate
- favored protective tariffs like the Tariff of 1828
- famous quote: “Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable,” which means the U.S. Must stay united and not let sectionalism rip us apart.

HENRY CLAY:

- Speaker of the House from Kentucky
- favored a national bank and internal improvements
- known as “The Great Compromiser” for helping work out the Missouri Compromise
- favored protective tariffs like the Tariff of 1828
- War Hawk

JOHN C. CALHOUN:

- a planter from South Carolina
- favored a national bank and internal improvements
- opposed protective tariffs like the Tariff of 1828
- War Hawk
- believed in states' rights—for example, since the Constitution didn't give Congress the right to abolish slavery, they had no right to do that.