

Activity: Write one of the four laws against each of the four points of the diamond. (Eternal Law, Natural Law, Human Law and Divine Law). Their position should reflect their importance.



1. Which did you put at the top and why?
2. Which did you put at the bottom and why?
3. How might natural law be defined?
4. What is meant by saying the natural law is universal?

## ANSWERS

- 1. The eternal law is the true purpose for creation that exists in the mind of God. It is revealed in and underlies all created things (human beings, animals, it is also revealed in physics, chemistry, biology).**
- 2. Human law because it is the outworking by reason of what God has revealed to us in divine and natural law.**
- 3. Aquinas defines it as ‘the rational creature’s participation in the eternal law’ (ST II.I Q92).**
- 4. The natural law involves the shared pursuit of rational goals – these are designed into everyone by God. So all human beings are set up like this, Aquinas argues, and share in a basic synderesis (knowledge of good and evil).**