Question 2

Part A: Flight to Oklahoma

Since the plane is built to be able to fly on one engine, the only way it can fail to complete a four-hour flight is if no engine were working, or equivalently both the engines failed in the given flight. This condition is both necessary and sufficient.

$$P(\text{plane fails to complete the flight}) = P(\text{engine 1 fails} \cap \text{engine 2 fails})$$
 (1)

Since the two engines operate independently, their failures (an event in their operation cycle) too are independent of each other. Thus, we get

$$P(\text{plane fails to complete the flight}) = P(\text{engine 1 fails}) \cdot P(\text{engine 2 fails})$$
 (2)

Substituting
$$P(\text{engine 1 fails}) = P(\text{engine 2 fails}) = \frac{1}{100}$$
, we get

$$P(\text{plane fails to complete the flight}) = \frac{1}{10000} = 0.01\%$$
 (3)

Part B: Birthday Paradox

P(at least two people have same birthday)

$$= 1 - P$$
(no two people have the same birthday) (4)

= 1 - P(all 30 people have distinct birthday)

Since the birthdays are uniformly distributed over 365 days,

$$= 1 - \frac{\text{\#permutations of distinct 30 birthdays}}{\text{\#permutations of 30 birthdays}}$$

$$= 1 - \frac{365!}{(365 - 30)!}$$

$$\approx 1 - 0.294$$

$$= 0.706$$
(5)